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Supplement
to
Rural Dialect of Grant County, Indiana, in the 'Nineties

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Making this concession to the law declaring all obscene, indecent, and immoral things nonmailable, the writer wishes to comment upon this moronic legislation. It proscribes all articles or things designed to prevent conception. This is regulation of another age, one that we had a right to hope had ended in civilized lands. Those who oppose birth control are to that extent, at least, allied in spirit to the international bandits who brought on the present world war.

The act further childishly includes as "indecent", matter of a character tending to incite arson, murder, or assassination, as if the meaning of a word could be changed by statute.

As to what is obscene, indecent, and immoral, opinions differ. Circumstances alter cases. What a judge personally believes may be important. Court decisions under the law clearly show that intent has been given great weight. These things being true, consistent findings and, therefore, justice under the law are impossible. Obscenity, indecency, immorality, are not subject to exact definition. Immorality, certainly, and the others in only slightly lesser degree, denote that which is contrary to custom. Customs change and, in consequence, static law becomes meaningless. Basically, the legislation referred to is a manifestation of human hypocrisy. Knowledge that is widespread, language that is universal, are taboo, or so the law contends. What a farce!

In further hypocrisy, while banning obscenity from the mails, we actually allow the mailing of works that contain much which is classed as that commodity. The Bible, for instance, steady best seller, with organizations established to distribute it, is sent through the mails with the thorough approval of the government. Probably with lesser approval, but still accepted as mailable, are the works of Boccacio, Shakespeare, Rabelais, Balzac, and Zola, not to mention those of living authors, in which so-called obscenity is not hard to find. Where draw the line? Who is to draw it? What respect can we have for it?

There is such a thing as serious, scholarly study of these theoretically forbidden matters. There can be discussion of the supposedly worst words (choose what one may) that will not descend below the level of purposeful and dignified etymological and ethnological investigation. For such studies raw material in the form of recorded dialects is essential, and the words which some assure us that the public can not tolerate, should be included as an integral part of language. Moreover those who speak of public distaste in this direction are mistaken as the words involved are of the public.

Even the ugliest of the so-called unprintable Anglo-Saxon monosyllables are known to every person in the land, yet we pretend that people can not endure the sight of them. If there is any term descriptive of intensely sublimated and unbelievably fantastic hypocrisy, it applies with full force to this phase of human narrowness.

Glossary*

"accidents will happen in the best of families", saying, referring to unexpected pregnancy. Charles Dickens in David Copperfield has it, "accidents will occur in the best regulated families"

alter, v., castrate. Dial. U. S.

ass, n., buttocks, but also the ass-hole or anus, as in the elegant retort, "Suck my ———". The word also applied to the female pudendum (see under "piece"). It is of course a corruption of the English "arse", a term having homologues in several languages of northwestern Europe and traceable also to Armenian and Greek

ass-backwards, adv., extravagance for backwards. We seldom or never used "backward" (i.e. without the "s").

ass end foremost, adv. phr., backwards; a more polite version was "hind end foremost"

ass end to, adv. phr., with the breech advanced; backwards

ass over appetite (applecart or *endways),* adv. phr., head over heels

ass-sucker, n., bootlicker, toady, T.

baby-shit yaller, adj. phr., pale yellow as of the article specified

backhouse, n., privy. A rather general usage

backsides, n., buttocks

bag, n., scrotum

ballocks, n. Dictionary gives testicles, Obs. except vulgar. It came as a surprise to me when I first learned the accepted spelling of this term. We spelled it *bollux* and pronounced it *bahlux,* thereby using one of the few *ah* sounds in our vocabulary. The word meant scrotum and testicles together, not the latter alone. Grose (1785, p. 37) has *bollocks.* The "x" words discussed in the main glossary, perhaps have their prototype here. "All bolluxed up" meant thoroughly messed, mishandled, spoiled

balls, n., testicles.

barry, n., a castrated male hog. Dict. has "barrow"

**The rules followed in making the supplement are the same as those for the main list, except that "town" terms have not been excluded. Town, meaning West Marion or "Bucktown", was a fertile source of words for this glossary. About 20 percent of the total number were characteristically town expressions (Labelled, T.).*

basackwards, adv., euphemism for ass-backwards, meaning merely backwards. "You're doin' that jes ———"

be-, prefix, used chiefly in such terms as bepiss and beshit to worsen the condemnation; applied almost exclusively to messy things (See main glossary); "He beshit himself", "He was all bepissed"

behind, n., buttocks. Dict. notes Vulgar

belly-button, n., navel

Billy-de-damned, n. phr., a standard of unpleasant comparison, as in "hotter than ———"; used with a great variety of adjectives, as, colder, tighter, onrier

bitch, n., a female dog; also in villification, a woman. Latter Vulgar N. I. D.

bottom, n., buttocks

box, n., female pudendum

break leg above knee, v. phr., copulate with, as evidenced by pregnancy; "She broke her leg above the knee with ———"

break looking glass, v. phr., euphemism for "break the ass", but meaning bang rather than break. In an icy time or during skating one would not be surprised by the warning, "Watch out or you'll break your looking glass"

bubby, n., woman's teat. N. I. D. says "now vulgar"

bugger (rhyming with sugar), v., copulate *per ano.* T.

"built like a brick shithouse", description, especially of a hefty woman built solidly and close to the ground. T.

bullin', v., said of a cow in heat, and of her antics, as riding other cattle

butt, n., buttocks. Now chiefly dial.

caught with one's pants down, v. phr., taken at a disadvantge, unarmed, unprepared

chamber, n., chamber pot, "thunder-mug"

chippy, n., prostitute. T.

chippy-chaser, n., one addicted to whoring. T.

cock, n., applied to both the female pudendum and the male penis. Also meant the "deed of kind", as in "plenty of good ———"

cock-sucker, n. Could be of either sex operating on either sex. Also used as a term of reprobation not to be understood literally. T.

"cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey," saying meaning unusually cold. T.

concern, n., the female pudendum

cover, v., said of the male's part in copulation, usually of animals.

cow-dab, n., cow dung in the original pile. (Va.)

cow-flop, n., same as the preceding

crab, crab louse, n., the pubic louse. T.

crabby, adj., infested by "crabs". T.

cram, v., to fuck a woman; perhaps in many instances an overoptimistic term. T.

crap, n., feces. T.

crap, v., *take a crap,* v. phr., defecate. T.

"crawl in my hole and take my hole with me", also said of others, escape a disagreeable situation; the latter part of the expression has a double meaning, intensifing the act of hiding, but also giving a humorous effect by referring to the ass-hole

crowd, v., same as cram. T,

crumby, adj., dirty, but specifically of the sexual organs, "a ——— old cock". T.

cunt, n., the female pudendum. A universal term; why excluded from the dictionaries?

cut, v., castrate

cut the foot, v. phr., step in dung. (Md., Va.)

damn sight", "not by a, adv. phr., not at all. T.

dick, n., penis. T.

diddle, v., copulate. (D. C.) N. I. D. has "jog up and down", Colloq. and Dial. T.

dink, n., penis, especially the small one of a boy; "his little ———"

dirty, v., to beshit one's clothing. (Va.)

dirty, adj., shitty; "——— didies"

do a job, do one's business, v. phr., defecate

"don't know his ass from a hole in the ground", saying meaning he is very stupid

dose, n., attack of venereal disease, usually the clap or gonorrhea. (Kans.) T.

dream off, v. phr., have an emission of semen while asleep. T.

dump, v., *take a dump,* v. phr., defecate. T.

"every little bit helps, said the old woman as she pissed in the sea"

fart, n., breaking of wind, and v. to break wind or emit gas from the anus, accompanied by sound. See "slider". Still a silent one, detected by the nose, would have been called a ——"

fan with a brick, v. phr., strike with a thrown brick. T.

fancy woman, n. phr., prostitute. T.

fart in hell, n. phr., very little; "I wouldn't give a ——— for his chances"

"fisherman's luck", n. phr. A stock response to the question, "What luck did you have?", was, "Fisherman's luck, a wet ass, and a hungry gut"

frig, v., copulate. Grose (1785) defines this as to masturbate, tracing it to the Spanish word, *fregar,* to harm. On the other hand it is well to remember that Frigg was a Norse goddess supposed to preside over marriage. Frig, simply, according to N. I. D., means to wiggle. Etymology, it would seem, is a puzzling study

fry, n., used in the plural, *lamb fries,* meant lamb's testicles, either fresh or prepared for eating. T.

fuck, v. and n., the most common term for copulation.

gillflirt, n., a heartless wanton. Dict. notes archaic, and synonymizes it with flirtgill, Obs. I heard it used by a factory worker from the East and it is recorded from southern Illinois. Grose, 1785, defined it as "a proud minx, a vain capricious woman". T.

gism, n., a semen (chism, chissum, Va., Greene). The first letter had a hard sound and I would have entered the word as *jism* except for the following precedents. Clapin (A new dictionary of Americanisms, 1907, p. 204) defines *gism* as energy, spirit, deriving it from Dutch *Geest,* i.e. German *Geist.* Dialect Notes (6(10), July 1935, p. 453) gives as equivalents, strength, talent, genius, ability ("spunk") and records the following comments. In various parts of the South *gism* has the meaning "gravy" or "cream sauce". In the North it is commonly used to mean "semen". In Maine and Eastern New England the word is pronounced *chism.* [End of comment.] Relation with *chrism,* sacramental ointment, is fascinating to contemplate The connection with spunk is obvious; youths were warned that for every drop expended they lost that much of their heart's blood. A bawdy song represented a child as reproaching a father for having spurted gravy in its face while *in utero.* This comes round to the Southern usage cited. It is just possible that the word is what laymen assimilated from the term orgasm heard from doctors

"God only knows and he won't tell", meant, don't ask me. T.

go down on, v. phr., said of mumps when they affected the testicles. T.

go out, v. phr., go to the privy; "Teacher, may I ———?"

goose, v. According to my experience, none of the explanations of this term seen in print are accurate. It means specifically to poke in the anus, an action usually accompanied by a lip-sucking sound. Does the N. I. D. comment apply in a way so recondite as scarcely to be recognized? "Southern U. S. To attack in the manner of a goose, that is, with a poke of the head and a hiss". The usage is, however, universal. T.

goosey, adj., susceptible to goosing. I have noted individuals who, when goosed, jumped in the air and squealed like a horse. Some were so responsive as to shy at a gesture made with upcocked thumb. This, suggesting a priapus, indicates a possible connection with buggery. T.

grannies, n., menses

granny, n., rump, ass; "Aw yer ———", exclamation of disagreement or disbelief
gun, n., penis; *get one's gun off,* have an ejaculation. T.
half-assed, adj., imperfect, unsatisfactory; "That's a ——— way of doing it"
hard-on, n., erection of the penis
head-cheese, n., cheesy matter collecting under the prepuce behind the glans of the penis. T.
hind-end, n., buttocks
hit the hole, v. phr., in negative expressions as, "I can't seem to ———", or "Can't you ———?", about fumbling with a key or tool, the allusion being to copulation
hockey, n., human excrement; v., to defecate. (Cf. *kakke,* Ger.; *caca* Port.). This identical term recorded from Missouri; hawky (Southern Ill.); cackie, cackey, cockey (Kans.); cacky (Va.). In the East, remembrance of our usage prevented me from taking kindly to the term hockey for the sport, which we called shinny
horse's-ass, n., an undesirable citizen, a fool. Euphemised in directional expressions, as "the north end of a horse going south"
horsey, n., *horsing,* v., applied to a mare in heat.
hung, v., said of dogs in copulation that must await subsidence of the enlarged penis before they can separate
jack off (*jerk off* too, I believe), v. phr., masturbate. In the sex-ridden Bucktown, adolescents held jacking-off parties. "Come to the foam" was an inciting cry. Stallions and bulls successfully masturbated by muscular action of the penis, and geldings dreamed and tried
jerk a knot in one's tail, v. phr., threat of condign punishment for doing, or failing to do, the thing in view. This has a flavor of cowboy parlance, but with us language was traceable far more to the East and South than to the West.
kiss my ass, v. phr., insulting retort signifying noncompliance; also meant about the same as "go to hell'. See *Signs*
knock up, v. phr., make pregnant
line, v., to fuck a female, used of both men and animals; probably refers to the discharge of semen
madam, n., the head woman of a bawdy house. T.
make water, v. phr., to urinate
mink", "fuck like a, phr., with the senses of enthusiastically, enduringly, intensively. Greene, recording the comparison from Virginia, associates it with minx, a wanton wench. The pioneers, however, were more likely to have had the fur animal in mind. That it has a special reputation in this respect is shown by the French Canadian name. *foutereau* (fucker), cited by John Richardson (Arctic Searching Expedition, I, 1851, p. 109)

monthlies, n., menses
morfadite, morfodike, n., variants of hermaphrodite. T.
movement, n., evacuation of bowels
nuts, n., testicles
obishaki, n., privy. Is this a Russian word?; my father, who used it, had tried homesteading in North Dakota. T.
outhouse, n., privy
pecker, n., the most common word for penis. Two definitions of this word are worth citing: "an instrument for pecking", and *"spirits, courage".* Does the Scotch saying, "Keep your pecker up", have a double meaning?
pecker poker, n., game of poker in which losers had to submit their peckers to blows with "hands" of cards; unscrupulous players would snatch half a deck for the purpose, thus playing too rough. T.
pee, v., make water, the word among children and females or, for politeness by men, in mixed company. (Southeast)
peter, n., penis
piddle, v., pee
piece, n., bout of copulation; also more fully "a ——— of ass, cock, or skin", "take a ———", v. phr., copulate. T.
pig's ass, in a, prep. phr., not at all; "Yes you will, ———"
pig's eye, n., euphemistic name for the very prevalent symbol for the female pudendum, an upright diamond with a longitudinal slit in the middle. "In a pig's eye" was used by some in preference to the preceding saying, but to those conscious of the yoni sign the improvement seemed hardly noticeable
piss, v., urinate; Dict. says now vulgar. A saying, "When one dog pisses they all have too", recognized the communication of the urge in a group of boys, or even of men. Another saying was, "When you grow up to be a man, you can ——— hard on the ground"
piss-ant, n., the usual term for ant. Obs. Exc. Dial.
piss-ellum, n., the slippery elm (*Ulmus fulva*). In connection with a Kansas record of the term, we are told that, "When burnt green the sap steams out and hisses"
play pocket pool, v. phr., manipulate the balls, or genitalia in general, by the hands thrust into the pockets. T.
play with one's self, v. phr., masturbate. T.
polish it in the corner, phr., a catch for the inexperienced, especially for little girls by naughty boys. If they repeated the phrase quickly, as suggested, the effect was surprising
poop, v., to break wind; also to defecate
prick, n., penis
"proud as a stud horse", simile
puckering string, n. phr., anal sphincter; "Hold onto the ———" was an urge to make every effort to postpone defecation until reaching a suitable place.

pussy, n., female pudendum
put blocks (ballocks?) *to*, v. phr., copulate. T.
"red as a baby's ass", simile
ridgnal (from original? cf. ridgling), n., man or animal in which the testicles have not descended into the scrotum; a cryptorchid. (Ill., Kans., Ohio)
"runnin' off at the bowels", v. phr., diarrhoea
sarchin', adj., searching. In a discussion of the merits of various bumfodders, the oldtimer plumped for corncobs at the most "sarchin' "
screw, v., copulate. (Grose 1785)
see aunt, grandmother, Mrs. Jones, and probably other females, phr., go to privy
seed, n., semen
seeds, n., testicles
settin'-down place, n. phr., buttocks
sewed-up, adj., pregnant
sheath, n., the covering into which the penis of a stallion or other animal is retracted
shit, n., feces, also used as v., adj. and interj., in addition to its normal functions, this terse Anglo-Saxonism served as a swearing word. "Oh ———!" was a very common expression of disappointment, for which, conceivably, "Oh pshaw!" is a euphemism
shitass, n., a person inferior to the speaker, one who is disreputable, untrustworthy, contemptible
shithouse, n., privy
shit muckle dun, adj., sheer exuberance for dun, the color of a horse. Muckle-dun, "rat"-colored, Vigo County, Indiana. (O. W. Hasley, 1906)
shits, n., diarrhoea
"shiverin' like a dog shittin' bones", simile
Signs. Tickling the palm of a girl's hand with one's forefinger was an invitation to copulation. A forefinger thrust through a ring made with the index finger and thumb of the other hand, and worked appropriately, signified copulation. The universal gesture of thumb on nose and twiddling fingers, meant "kiss my ass"
skin off my ass", "It's no, saying, meaning "it's of no consequence to me", "it's none of my business'. T.
skin the prick, v. phr., pulling back the foreskin (prepuce) and exposing the head (glans). T.
slider, n., a breaking of wind without sound. There was a tale of a boy cautioned about farting at table and told to let them slide out. His first trial resulted in a turd, which he pulled out and exhibited, saying, "Here's one of your sliders"

slut, n., female dog; also a woman one wished to disparage
"smooth as a baby's ass", simile
snatch, n., female pudendum. (Va.)
son of a bitch, n., term of reproach or condemnation, used very freely without consciousness of its literal significance. Really meant, it was a fighting word and among boys, at least, provoked a scrap when all other insults had failed
squirts, n., diarrhoea
star boarder, n., one who did not pay, usually tolerated, it was assumed, because he was a lover of the landlady or her daughter. T. A popular song was:,

"Oh you must be a lover of the Lord
  If you want to go to Heaven when you die;
And you must be a lover of the landlady's daughter,
  If you want to get a second piece of pie"

stone-ache, n., pain in the testicles caused by prolonged but unsatisfied sexual excitement
stones, n., testicles
suck off, v. phr., produce orgasm by buccal or lingual action. It is worth noting that in a series of several phrases in this glossary, the word "off" implies ejaculation. T.
swallow. "She's got something in her she never swallowed," saying meaning, "she is pregnant"
sweat. "If he was dyin' of thirst (or roastin' in hell), I wouldn't give him the sweat off of my balls," saying expressing extreme detestation or hatred. T.
tack, n., penis, especially of a child. Past middle life, an individual came to my notice who was named Peter Tack, both designations, in our vocabulary, meaning penis. He would have had a difficult time socially in the rural population of my youth. "Let me introduce Peter Tack". I can hear them snort now
tail, n., female pudendum; "a piece of ———", "some ———", bout of copulation; *split-tail*, a woman, especially a loose one. T.
taken short, v. phr., descriptive of the bowels moving right now, allowing no time to find cover
tend to business, v. phr., defecate
thing, n., female pudendum or male penis. "So they put their things together and went to housekeeping"
"three axe handles across the ass (or *butt*)", phr., referring to women of the type Washington Irving described as "broad in the poop". Heard from my grandfather, so it was a pioneer expression.
thunder-mug, n., chamber pot (Ala., Va.)
"tight as a little bull's ass goin' uphill", phr., meaning far from tight, the usual fresh grass diet and the down sloping posture, contributing to considerable leakage

toe-jam, n., viscid dirt collecting between the toes of shod, but unwashed feet. Cognate is a test for the need of sock washing: when thrown against the wall, if they stick, they should go to the wash

tool, n., penis

touch-hole, n., anus

tread, v., to copulate with a female, used for poultry and other birds

tumble-turd, n., tumble-bug, a beetle, especially of the genus *Canthon,* that rolls up balls of dung, in which the eggs are laid

turd, n., solid feces; also applied to persons as a term of contempt

turpentine, v., apply turpentine to the anus or genitals of a dog, cruel treatment that sends the animal wildly off across country. T.

u p, up, catch phr. Girls were teased by asking them if they could spell "up"; if they did they were laughed at

upset one's applecart, v. phr., send arsy-versy; spoil plans

wet dream, n. phr., one of sexual activity in which discharge of semen occurs. Not restricted to men; a pug dog was observed to have one. T.

Nomina Abitera

BY

W. L. McATEE

Cypripedia, by William Sergeant Kendall, 1869-1938
California Palace of the Legion of Honor
San Francisco

CYPRIPEDIA

Coarse names the plain folk give you
But they don't mean them so.
They deem you as I deem you,
Fair as any flower to blow.
They praise you as I praise you,
Oh! pineland's lovely sprite,
They see you as I see you,
Radiant, fair, and bright.
You do suggest a maiden,
A dryad kneeling nude,
Startled, with blushes laden,
When by her lover woo'd.

From Medley, by W. L. M.
1935, p. 9.

NOMINA ABITERA

By W. L. McATEE

"A dictionary is defective that omits a single word."—(Silas T. Rand, Dictionary of the Language of the Micmac Indians, 1888.)

"The real dictionary will give all words that exist in use, the bad words as well as any."—(Walt Whitman, An American Primer, 1904.)

THERE APPEARS to be among mankind an innate tendency toward ribaldry. It is evidenced in early childhood by the scrawling of forbidden words and symbols, and a little later by indulgence in "back-house poetry." In adult life it is manifested in the popularity of the burlesque theater and by the universality of "smutty" jokes and stories in the converse of people, high and low, male and female.

I do not use the term "indecency," because that quality characterizes, not challenged bits of natural grossness, but rather the minds of finicky auditors or observers. It has been well said by a great apostle of intellectual freedom—Theodore Shroeder—that, "Obscenity is always and exclusively in the psychology of the accusing person."

Indeed, the trait, I prefer to call ribaldry, is only a sign of the robust heartiness that is an important part of the make-up of every well-endowed human being, and of an abiding sense of humor that has helped pioneers, explorers, soldiers, in fact almost all doers through many a struggle with the difficulties of life.

Although effete successors have done more or less to alter the record, those hardy enough to conquer the wilderness usually left upon it the impress of a rich vocabulary. It is not the purpose of this work to summarize these interesting geographical appellations, but only to cite a moderate number of them in support of our thesis of relish for the vulgar.

It is not confined to any one race. French explorers were free in bestowing the terms **mamelle** and **teton** (both signifying a woman's teat) upon hills and mountains for which they needed names. Thomas Nuttall (Travels Into the Arkansa Territory, 1821, p. 110) describes a **mamelle** or teat-shaped mountain on the Arkansas River. Timothy Flint (Recollections of * * * the Valley of the Mississippi, 1826, p. 129) refers to "a long series, league after league, of those singular and regular-shaped hills called **"mamelles,"** along the Meramec River, Missouri. John J. Audubon (in Audubon, Maria R., "Audubon and His Journals," 1900, 2, pl. opp. p. 118) illustrates three **Mamelles** seen near the Blackfoot Rover. A Scotchman would call such mounds "paps" and according to Thomas Pennant (A Tour in Scotland, in 1772, 1809, p. 281) there are on the Island of Jura, several rounded mountains

that are called "paps." That term was used in the translation of Pierre de Charlevoix's Journal of a Voyage to North America (1761, 1, p. 9) in referring to two summits of the same mountain along the St. Lawrence River near the Island of Anticosti as the Paps of Matane.

Among the most striking mountains of the West are the Grand Tetons of Wyoming, and there are other **tetons** in Idaho, Montana, and South Dakota. **Tatoosh**, a Chinook Indian name of the same meaning, is used for certain Washington mountains.

In Alaska "Denali" is the Kuskokwim Indian name for Mt. McKinley, highest point in North America. A few miles distant is Mt. Foraker, whose two breast-like peaks the Kuskokwim call "Denali's Wife" (Time, 24, 1934, p. 32). Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, the learned antiquarian of Pennsylvania, informs me that a certain pair of mountains in the central part of that State are known as the Queen of Sheba's Breasts. At possible risk of descending from the sublime, I add that Dr. William B. Davis, tells me of "The Nipple," a small conical hill near Frijole, Texas. There are Squaw Tits literally throughout the West. Of one of them Richard M. Tullar writes me (May 30, 1942): "The grazing service in eastern Oregon saw fit to change the name of their experiment station to the Squaw Butte Experiment Station. The rightful name of the prominence is Squaw Tit." Lady Love Mountain, California, also is said to be named from its mammiform shape.

As the mammae are not only well recognized objects of beauty but also nutritive organs to which people almost necessarily must refer, possibly the allusions to them here cited may not be classed as really ribald. However, is is easy to go on to terms that leave no doubt of their inventors' robust humor. One of them may be introduced in a brief anecdote. On certain maps of Washington State, one can find a feature of the southeastern shore of Puget Sound labelled R. A. Point. It is a stopping place for small steamers serving the local population. On them the captain is helmsman, purser, and general factotum. A maiden lady, getting on at Olympia, approached this particular captain, a rough and ready character, inquiring: "Does this boat stop at R. A. Point?" "What Point?" queried the captain, "there's no such Point as fur as I know." "Well," said the lady, weakening, "some call it Raggedy Point." "Never heard of that either," retorted the captain to lead her on. "If I must say it, then," yielded the lady, "the full name is Ragged Ass Point." "Why in hell didn't you say so in the first place?" demanded the old reprobate, "of course we stop there."

A related squib concerns an eastern sound, the critical terms being Holmer's Hole, Hell Gate, and Herring Gut. Again the burden is put on an "old maid," who is alleged to have found all of these names indelicate and who reported that she had "visited Holmer's Place by way of Bad Man's Gate and Herring Innards."

There are other scandalizing names that get on the maps in disguise. For example there is P. O. Saddle in Oregon, which in full is Piss Over Saddle in allusion to the narrow separation of two watersheds, those of Snake and the Imnaha Rivers. Through the abbreviation on maps, this term has been Bowdlerized to a meaningless Post Office Saddle, there being no post office anywhere near it. Another example is S. P. Butte, New Mexico, decorous abbreviation for Shit Pot Butte, named perhaps from its shape. Mr. Tullar has sent two illustrations from the map of a national forest in Arizona: C. P. Butte —Colonel's Pecker Butte, and C. P. Creek—Cow Piss Creek, the valley of which is called Cow Piss Canyon.

Let Mr. Tullar explain one more of these ribald geographic names and I will merely record in alphabetic order a few others that have come to my attention. No special search has been made and with little doubt a large collection of these "off-color" appellations could be assembled.

But to go on with Mr. Tullar's contribution: "Before the advent of the Taylor Grazing Act, the western slope of the Steens Mountains in eastern Oregon harbored 15 to 20 sheep camps through the open months of the year. Illegal traffic in sexual intercourse became a much more profitable profession in these mountains than it was in the near-by town of Burns. Numerous prostitutes, therefore, moved out and established places of business on a certain centrally-located meadow in the area. This group of mountain meadows has ever since been known as Whorehouse Meadows."

ALPHABETICAL LIST

ASS-HOLE VALLEY, Nevada (authority, George R. Stewart).

BULL PRICK CREEK, Utah (Edward H. Graham).

COLD ASS CREEK, Great Smoky Mountains, North Carolina (Ed. V. Komarek).

C. CREEK (i.e., CRAPPER CREEK), University of Florida (Gainesville) campus, "the local names referring * * * to the outhouse, formerly, perhaps still, located at the head of this rivulet" (M. Graham Netting).

CUNT CANYON, California (called Ladies' Canyon on the map, George R. Stewart).

DEAD PECKER SLOUGH (probably Dead Woodpecker Slough in full), Royal Palm Park, Florida (W. L. M.)

GOOSE TURD ISLAND. Local appellation for small, stream-lined, tear-shaped island in Goose Creek, Loudoun County, Va. Referred to with a smile in the presence of the women folk, as "Goose Neck Island." (Earle T. Mutersbaugh).

HAIRY DICK PRAIRIE (i.e hairy prick prairie), Florida Everglades (Roy V. Komarek).

HARD-ON ROCK, on U. S. Highway 85, between Cheyenne and Torrington, Wyoming (Dee Linford).

HOERENKIL (Whore Channel), Hoeren Eylant, and Horen Hook were locality names applied about Delaware Bay by early Dutch explorers (George R. Stewart, American Speech, 19 (3), 1944, pp. 215-216).

HORSE-COCK BUTTE, Oregon (Ira N. Gabrielson and Stanley G. Jewett).

KILLPECKER CREEK, Wyoming, name on an official highway sign (W. L. M.).

MOLLY'S BUTT, Great Smoky Mountains, North Carolina (Ed. V. Komarek).

MRS. JACKSON'S HOLE, a peculiarly suggestive fissure in a smooth cliff face in Jackson's Hole just south of Yellowstone Park, Wyoming (Dee Linford).

PISMIRE HILL, near Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania (Maximilian, Prinz zu Wied, Reise in * * * Nord America * * * 1832 bis. 1834, 1839, 1, p. 104).

SHIT CREEK, Wyoming, "the title is descriptive of the water's content" (Dee Linford).

SHIT-HOUSE CREEK (E. G. Holt tells me he has come across this name in various Western States).

SHITEPOKE ISLAND, near Haverhill, Massachusetts (P. G. B., Oologist, 7, 1890, p. 112). See comment on the word "shitepoke," p. 25.

SHITIKE CREEK, Jefferson County, Oregon (Lewis A. MacArthur, Oregon Geographic Names, 1928, says this is probably a corruption of an old Indian locality name). Ira N. Gabrielson and Stanley G. Jewett informed me that it is pronounced "Shit-Ikey."

SHORT-ASS MOUNTAIN, a mountain in view of Hups, Virginia, wrote B. S. Barton in his Journal (1802), "is known in the country by the name of the Short-Arse Mountain," and he piously adds: "It is to be hoped it has some other name." (Journal of Benjamin Smith Barton on a visit to Virginia, 1802. Edited by W. L. M. Castanea, 3, 1938, p. 106.)

SQUAW-TURD BUTTE, Oregon (Gabrielson and Jewett).

TIGHT-ASS HILL is a generic term in some parts of the West for a very sharply-crested hill, to cross which it is necessary for the wheel-horses to take the wagon over unaided by other teams (George R. Stewart).

Apologists—(the compiler is none for he hails the mental freedom of those who confer these names and glories in the independence of those who preserve them)—apologists may claim that it is only the vulgar herd that resorts to such language, but they would be wrong. Some of the most learned, namely those having established the technical nomenclature of all creatures of the earth, have conferred many a term in a spirit of something less than a scientific consecration. Carl von Linne, builder of the binomial system of nomenclature, knighted in his own country, given the highest academic honors in many others, and acclaimed by each succeeding generation of scientists, set an imposing example of freedom in the naming of things.

One who did not approve writes:

"Linne gave obscene names to some genera and to many species. These, in many cases, were merely the dirty names given to many marine creatures by the local fishermen and put into Latin form by Linne or his predecessors. Such obscene names (often the same) are still in use, even by American fishermen, as I know from long experience." (A. E. Verrill, Priority Overworked, Science N. S. 39 (1008), April 24, 1914, p. 608.)

In the Fauna Suecica (1746) are three of these "obscenities": **Priapus senilis, P. judaicus, and P. felinus;** and in the Systema Naturae 1758) two more: **P. equinus** and **P. humanus.** One would conclude that the language of the Scandinavian fishermen (thus sampled in translation) has its full share of forthright expressions. Among the better efforts of Linnaeus in the line of plant names are **Phallus impudicus** (the stinkhorn) and **Clitoria mariana** (see p. 13).

The plant christened **Amorphophallus** by Blume is one of the family Araceae, whose structure is so suggestive of genitalia (see pp. 7-8). There is a story current in Pittsburgh that a professor being asked the meaning of the name by a spinster member of the Botanical Society, promptly replied: "A shapeless stick." A specimen that was brought to bloom in the New York Botanical Garden years ago was of the species **A. titanum**; it stood several feet in height.

Perhaps the zoologists have been even more prone than the botanists to follow Linne's pattern. Examples can be cited from many fields, but a few must suffice. Aristotle called a certain hawk **Triorchis** because he thought that it had three testicles. But centuries later an ornithologist (Kaup, 1829) proposed a number of genera distinguished nomenclatorially by prefixes to the word **triorchis.** Some of these seem to evidence lack of a sense of humor as applied to "three balls," for instance lopho- (crested), tachy- (swift), and odonto- (toothed). The ornithologists responsible for the name **Catamenia analis** certainly were not deterred by delicacy.

The name **Poescopia** is a Latinization of the local Dutch name Poeskop (pisspot) for the Cape (of Good Hope) humpback whale. A family of small fishes, known as the Phallostethidae has some phallically-named genera to correspond. In the realm of parasitology where distinctions are often most obvious in the characteristics of the reproductive organs, phallic and orchic names are common, e.g. in the Trematoda: Apophallus, Cotylophallus, Opisthorchis, Plagiorchis.

To give representation to entomology, I may add that McAtee and Malloch took a whirl at naughty nomenclature in their paper on thread-legged bugs (Revision of the Ploiariinae, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 67 (1), 1925), naming several forms distinguishable chiefly by their genitalia after Roman empresses of notorious genital conduct. Examples are: agrippina, faustina, messalina, and poppaea. The emperors were given like recognition in a second treatise by the same authors (Revision of the...Cryptostemmatidae, op. cit., 67 (13), 1925), witness: clodius, commodus, decius, and drusus. May they rest in peace!

PLANTS

In general, terms that may be found in conventional glossaries have been omitted. That their number is considerable may be judged from the following samples: bastard hellebore, beggar lice, belly-ache weed, birth-root, bladderwort, female regulator, Indian physic, naked ladies, nipplewort, pilewort, purging root, squaw-weed, stink-horn, tree of knowledge, Venus' navel.

Authorities frequently referred to, of which later citations are in brief, include:

Britten, James, and Robert Holland—1878-1886. A dictionary of English plant names.

Lick, David E., and Thomas R. Brendle—1923. Plant names and plant lore among the Pennsylvania Germans. Proc. Pa. German Soc., 33 (3), 300 pp.

Lyons, A. B.—Plant names, scientific and popular—1907. Detroit 2d edit., 630 pp.

And in addition the Oxford English Dictionary.

Algae

The term frog-spit, applied to the floating masses formed chiefly by filamentous algae, is in some localities transformed to frog-shit. An expression not bawdy; but at least related to our field and manifesting the natural taste for the ludicrous is included in the place name, Bear's-Egg Spring (Oregon), the so-called "bear's eggs" being rounded algal formations.

Fungi

John Parkinson (Theatrum Botanicum, 1640, p. 1323) informs us that a fungus **Lupi crepitus** (wolf fart) "hath a very stinking savour,

whereof cometh the name." This is an elaboration on what John Gerarde said about this vegetable in his Herball of 1597, where he calls the whole class puff fistes (puff farts). The OED designates them also as fist-balls (fart balls). Britten and Holland tell us that the species particularly meant by Gerarde and Parkinson is the puff ball, **Lycoperdon bovista,** which is called also bullfeist (bull fart). American usage can be claimed through John Josselyn's "Account of Two Voyages to New England" (1675, Col. Mass. Hist., Soc., 3 (3), 1833, p. 265). "Fussballs, mullipuffes called by the fishermen wolves-farts are to be found plentifully, and those bigger than I have seen in England." A truffle-like fungus **(Elaphomyces cervinum)**, formerly reputed to be an aphrodisiac has such appropriate names as hart's balls, deer balls, and rut-of-harts (also this latter term in German, **hirsch-brunst**). (Lyons.)

Seed Plants

Savin **(Juniperus sabina)**—Cover shame (OED); kill-bastard (Britten and Holland), because employed to procure abortion.

Joint Firs **(Ephedra** spp.)—Decoctions of these plants are used in the treatment of venereal diseases, a point recognized in the scientific name of one of them—**antisyphilitica.** Such medication and popular opinion as to those in need of it are indicated in the vernacular names: Brigham's tea (southern Utah, Nevada; Ray Chandler), Brigham Young weed (Wooton and Standley, Flora of New Mexico, 1915, p. 38), clap-brush (Death Valley region, California, A. K. Fisher), clapweed (southern Utah, Nevada; Ray Chandler), Mexican tea (Jepson, Manual, Plants of California, 1925, p. 60), Mormon tea (Wooton and Standley op. cit.; Gila Valley, Arizona, E. G. Holt), teamster's tea, whorehouse tea (Lyons).

Oat Grass **(Danthonia spicata)**—Cunt-hair grass (West Virginia, F. C. Edminster).

Red Fescue **(Festuca rubra)**—Same (Scotland, where used for golf greens, J. R. Malloch).

Needle Rush **(Eleocharis acicularis)**—Same (Mount Desert, Maine, where seen as a dense stand under shallow water. (W.L.M.).

Spotted Arum **(Arum maculatum)**—John Parkinson (Theatrum Botanicum, 1640, p. 372) gives cuckow-pintle or pinte for this plant. William Turner (Names, 1548) writes cuckopintell and Britten and Holland add pintelwort. These are English modifications of a stem pint = penis, widely prevalent in Germanic languages. However, the name cuckoo-pint is widely printed probably with no realization of its significance. The prominence of the spadix in all arums is such as to suggest the penis. This most common European form is called also wake-pintle or wake-robin, for a reason indicated by John Lyly in his "Love's Metamorphosis," 1601. "They have eaten so much Wake-Robin that they cannot sleepe for loue." Thus robin is used as a syn-

onym for pintle = penis, not a surprise as various Christian names are so applied as Dick, Jock, Peter, Roger. Hence Wake-Robin in the names of a number of American plants and used as the title of a book by John Burroughs, probably does not have the poetical meaning its users innocently imagine.

This conjecture is strengthened by the British usage of Priest's pint, or Priest's pintle, "from the figure of the pestle or clapper in the middle of the hose," according to Coles (Britten and Holland.) Botanists would say "the spadix in the spathe."

The spotted arum is also known in North Devon as dog's dibble from the shape of the spadix like a "dog's dibble, thick in the middle." Whether dog's tausle (tassel), a Somerset usage is of the same meaning is unknown to me. From the long list of names for the plant given by Britten and Holland (p. 568), no fewer than the following 24 seem to have ribald significance: Adam-and-Eve, Bobbin-and-Joan, bulls and cows, cuckoo cock, cuckoo pint, cuckoo pintle, cuckoo point, devil's ladies-and-gentlemen, devil's men-and-women, dog's bobbins, dog's spear, dog's dibble, dog's tausle, gentlemen-and-ladies, kings-and-queens, ladies-and-gentlemen, lords-and-ladies, parson pillicods, pintlewort, priest's pintle, ramps, stallions, wake-pintle, and wake robin.

Jack-in-the-Pulpit **(Arisaema triphyllum)**—Priest's-pintle (Alice Henkel, Bureau of Plant Industry Bul. 107, 1907, p. 13). As this is an exclusively American plant and the word pintle is little known in this country, it is likely that some more obviously ribald term as priest's prick or preacher's pecker, is concealed by that cited. Taken in connection with remarks made in the preceding section, there are grounds for wondering about the ultimate meaning of the most common name for this plant, that is Jack-in-the-pulpit.

Eastern Skunk Cabbage **(Spathyema foetida)**—Biskatze graut (pisscat, i.e. skunk, cabbage, Pennsylvania German, Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 53).

Western Skunk Cabbage **(Lysichiton camtschatcense)**—Pisser's flower, northwest (S. P. Young).

Golden Club **(Orontium aquaticum)** — Dog's dick, Okefinokee Swamp, Georgia, Earle R. Greene); dick = penis.

Swamp Pink **(Helonias bullata)**—Stud-flower (Britton and Brown, Flora Northern States and Canada, 2d Edit., 1936, 1, p. 488).

Meadow Saffron **(Colchicum autumnale)**—Naked boys, ladies, or virgins, because the flowers appear without leaves (Britten and Holland).

Star of Bethlehem **(Ornithogalum umbellatum)**—Bulbs . . esculent; probably the "dove's dung" of Scripture (Lyons, p. 330).

Twisted Stalk **(Streptopus roseus)**—Scoot-berry, because it acts as

a physic, diarrhea being locally called "the scoots." (New Hampshire, Reverend Silvanus Hayward, Journal Amer. Folklore, 4, No. 13).

Wake-Robins **(Trillium** spp.)—Wildcat piss (Northwest, S. P. Young).

Orchids **(Orchidaceae)**—The Greek and Roman term for these plants, serving as a basis of both our vernacular and technical names, was orchis (i.e. testicle), referring to the shape of the tubers of many of the species. A whole system of nomenclature on the testicular basis prevailed among the herbalists. John Gerarde, for instance, wrote of Dog stones, Fooles stones, Goats stones, Serapia's stones (Serapis with the Egyptians was god of fertility), Fox stones, Hares stones, etc. He and others elaborated the terminology by using such synonyms as ballocks, cods, and cullions. The names became quite romantic for the orchids we call ladies' tresses **(Spiranthes)**. Of these he says: "Some call them Sweet Ballocks, sweet cods, sweet Cullions and Stander-grass; in Dutch Knabenkraut (boy's herb), and Stondelcraut (stander herb); in French "Satyrion" (1633, p. 219). It will be seen that these latter names convey the meaning of standing and suggest an aphrodisiac effect. Probably the doctrine of signatures had something to do with the reputation of these plants. The tubers resembling testicles were assumed to contain something that would augment the genital powers—aid the human race has always sought. For example Gerarde says: "The full and sappy roots of Lady-traces eaten or boyled in milke, and drunke, prouoke venery" (loc. cit.), and against the Marish (i.e. marsh) Satyrion is "of greater force than any of the Dogs stones in procuring lust" (op. cit., p. 228). Some such idea may have been the underlying cause for the popularity of salep, a common drink in England until it was replaced by coffee. The name itself is said to be from an Arabic phrase meaning fox testicles, and the brew embodied the powdered root of an orchis. It is of interest that one source was called **radix palmae-Christi.** Later inhabitants of Great Britain, than the herbalists have kept up the traditions as to orchids.

Orchis maculata and a few other species are known as Lover's Wanton, the root of which is the basis of a supposedly potent love philtre (Britten and Holland).

Orchis mascula is called ballock grass (though that also is an old usage) and bull's-bags (Jamieson, A Dictionary of the Scottish Language, 1867. Tending in quite a different direction is the appellation, dog's dogger (i.e. dog's dung). A list of names of this species culled from those given by Britten and Holland (p. 596) includes the following that are more or less suspect: Adam-and-Eve, ballock grass, bull's bags, bull dairy (or derries), cuckoo-pint, dog's dogger, dog stones, fool's stones, fox stones, goat stones, stander grass, man orchis, paddock's

spindle (i.e., toad's s.), priest's pintle, and stannen-gusses (probably stander grasses). (Science Gossip, 1881, p. 258.)

The aphrodisiac lore of orchids was carried to the New World. Thus John Josselyn in "New Englands Rarities Discovered," (1672, p. 32) remarks of "Dogstones, a kind of satyrion. I once took notice of a wanton woman's compounding the solid roots of this plant with wine, for an amorous cup; which wrought the desired effects." From the close observation implied this apparently was a personal experience.

In books, the long-bracted orchis **(Habenaria bracteata)** is termed satyr orchid and vegetable satyr and the showy ladies-slipper **(Cypripedium acaule)**, the pink lady's-slipper, is in New England called ballocks-blow, dog's ballocks and cunt-flower (F. E. L. Beal). The first two terms may allude to the form of the roots or to the expanded "lip" of the flower which may be likened to a scrotum. The third refers to the cleft in the pink "lip." Among the Pennsylvania Germans (according to Lick and Brendle, 1923, pp. 44-45) it receives such names as bock seckel (ram scrotum), bulle beidel (bull scrotum), ewwer graut (boar weed), schof beidel (scheep scrotum), and Mariens fotz (Virgin Mary's cunt).

This orchid is the subject of the painting reproduced in the frontispiece (which is, however, much more effective in color), and of the accompanying verses. It is evident that the artist had in mind some of the popular designations of the plant.

This species must have been meant in the following early account, the author of which took an even more comprehensive view of the sexual suggestiveness of the flower:

"About two years ago, walking out to take the air, I found, a little without my pasture fence, a flower as big as a tulip, and upon a stalk resembling the stalk of a tulip. The flower was of a flesh colour, having a down upon one end, while the other was plain. The form of it resembled the **pudenda** of a man and woman lovingly join'd in one. Not long after I had discovered this rarity, and while it was still in bloom, I drew a grave gentleman, about one hundred yards out of his way, to see this curiosity, not telling him anything more than that it was a rarity, and such, perhaps, as he had never seen, nor heard of. When we arrived at the place, I gathered one of them, and put it into his hand, which he had no sooner cast his eye upon, but he threw it away with indignation, as being ashamed of this waggery of nature. It was impossible to persuade him to touch it again, or so much as to squint towards so immodest a representation. Neither would I presume to mention such an indecency, but that I thought it unpardonable to omit a production so extraordinary." (R. B., Gent, The History and Present State of Virginia, London, 1705, Book II, p. 25.)

This "grave gentleman" was at least a spiritual ancestor of one mentioned in connection with the term bladderseed, to which I would

devote a paragraph if I knew its identity. Andrew Young in the course of an article enticingly called "Eve and Linnaeus" (Nineteenth Century and After, 131, June 1942, p. 276) writes: "The minister himself welcomed me with Wesleyan warmth. But when I asked him if he knew where bladderseed grew, a look of pain crossed his face, as though I had reminded him of an internal complaint."

Adam-and-Eve **(Aplectrum hyemale)** — Awdam-un-efa, Pennsylvania German. Lick and Brendle (1923, p. 36) comment, "No doubt an erotic idea underlies the above name."

Pin Oak **(Quercus palustris)**—In Dr. B. S. Barton's Journal (early 1800's) the name of "piss oak" is noted from the Genesee River district, New York. He further writes, "I know not why this last receives its name unless from the circumstance of its abounding in a large quantity of sap."

Oaks **(Quercus** spp.)—Manasseh Cutler in his "Life, Journals and Correspondence" (1788, 1, p. 410) records acorns as being called "sowtits," in New England.

The Slippery Elm **(Ulmus fulva)**—This species is called piss-elm in the Midwest (Indiana, Wisconsin, Kansas); a writer from the last State explains: "When burnt green, the sap steams out and hisses." (J. C. Ruppenthal, Dialect Notes, 14 (2), 1914, p. 106). It is called rotzhols or rudshuls (snot wood) in Pennsylvania German (Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 278).

Stinking Goose-Foot **(Chenopodium vulvaria)**—This is another of the names of Linnaeus which seems to get down to fundamentals. English names are notchwort, stinking motherwort, and dirty john. The effect of the combination of scientific and vernacular names of this plant is almost overpowering.

Smartweeds.—Here is a name in universal use, the origin of which has largely been forgotten. But John Gerarde in his Herball (1633, original edition 1577) mades it clear. Of arsmart or water-pepper, he says, there are four kinds (pp. 445-447). Their name in French is curage or culrage (arsmart) and "In English, Water-pepper, Culrage, and Arsemart according to the operation and effect when it is used in the abstersion of that part" (p. 477). The form colerage is known as early as 1387 (Sinonoma Bartholomei, OED).

The Dead Arsemart **(Polygonum persicaria)**, Gerarde says, is so called because "It doth not bite as the other doth." John Parkinson (Theatricum Botanicum, 1640) adds that a **Polygonum** (perhaps **aviculare)** is called "quicke or sharpe arsmart" (p. 856). For the water pepper **(Polygonum hydropiper)**, a plant of both hemispheres, we find recorded also "arsenick" which Lyons notes as a verbal corruption), and "arsemert' (Turner, Libellus, 1538). It is called also "smartass" (Britten and Holland). John Minshen (The Guide Into the Tongues, etc., 1617, p. 544) records: "If it touch the taile or other bare skinne, it maketh it smart."

Parkinson (1640) noted a "sharpe arsmart" and a spotted "arsmart" from Virginia, and Josselyn (1672) and other early writers use the term for American plants. Thomas Ashe (1808) and (probably following him) Thomas Jefferson (1854) use Arsmart as a vernacular for tear-thumb **(Polygonum sagittatum)**. This is a prickly species, however, not likely to be employed for bumfodder and if so used the smarting would at least primarily arise from scarification. Lewis and Clark in their journals (1804-1806) write the bald term "ass smart" (1904, 6 (1), p. 122).

Common Chickweed **(Alsine media)**—Hinkeldarem and similar terms meaning chicken guts (Pennsylvania German; Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 135). In High German the term is Huhnerdarm.

White Campion **(Lychnis alba)**—Cowmake, Leonard Mascall (Government of Cattle, 1587) writes: "Some husbands (to make the cow take the bul the sooner) do give her of the herb called cow-make." In Scotland the word becomes "cowmack."

Bladder Campion **(Silene latifolia)**—Cow paps; apparently from the shape of the inflated mature calyx.

Tulip Tree **(Liriodendron tulipifera)**—Peter Kalm, early Swedish botanical explorer of the American colonies, wrote: "The leaves have likewise something peculiar; the English therefore in some places call the tree the old woman's smock, because their imagination finds something like it below the leaves" (Forster Transl., 1770, 1, p. 203). The plant is known in Tennessee as "old wife's shirttail." These names may refer simply to the shape of the leaf, but again, as Kalm implies, they may have a deeper meaning.

Buttercup **(Ranunculus bulbosus)**—Pissabed (OED). See discussion of this term on page 15.

Barrenwort **(Epimedium alpinum)**—"Being drunk it is an enemie to conception" (Gerarde, Herball, 1577, p. 389). An American plant of the same family (Berberidaceae: **Vancouveria hexandra)** shares this name.

Strawberry Shrubs **(Calycanthus** spp.)—These are familiar garden shrubs, the globular flowers of which probably inspire the common names of bubby, bubby-blossoms, bubby-bush, bubby-shrub. One is fragrant and, therefore, called sweet bubby. These names prevail in the southern Appalachian region. Thomas Auburey in his "Travels" published in 1789-91 may be quoted, though we do not agree with all of his statements nor with his explanation. "A shrub peculiar to this Province (Virginia) . . . bears a small flower, which the inhabitants term the bubby flower . . . the name . . . arises from a custom the women have of putting this flower down their bosoms . . . till it has lost all its grateful perfume" (2, p. 352). Holding the flower (often

by itself called shrub or sweet shrub) tightly in the hand to wilt it, causing it to yield its perfume, is a common practice. Perhaps the fashion alluded to in the quotation is more interesting, depending much upon whose hand had the privilege of retrieving the blossom.

Shepherd's Purse **(Capsella bursa-pastoris)**—Bock seckel (ram scrotum, from the shape of the pod; Pennsylvania German, Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 8).

Meadow Bitter-Cress **(Cardamine pratensis)**—Cuckoo pint (Britten and Holland; perhaps in error as the plant is known as cuckoo-spit. Still the pod has a phallic shape; see page 7 for the meaning of pint = pintle).

Sundew **(Drosera rotundifolia)**—For this plant of both the Old and New Worlds the names youthwort and lustwort are quoted in our botanies, but not explained. So again we consult Gerarde, who says: "It is called . . . in low Dutch, Loopichecruit, which in English signifieth Lust Woort, because sheepe and other cattell, if they do but only taste of it, are prouoked to lust" (1597, p. 1366).

Burnet **(Sanguisorba officinalis)**—Maidenheads (Britten and Holland, p. 320).

Agrimony **(Agrimonia eupatoria)**—Goosechite (Gerarde) may or may not be what it seems.

Srawberry **(Fragaria vesca)**—Sheep-tits (New Hampshire, Philip F. Allan); sow-tit (Britton and Brown, 2 p. 260).

Salmonberry **(Rubus parviflorus)**—Maiden's tit (Northwest, S. P. Young).

Blackberry **(Rubus nigrobaccus)**—Sow-tit (Lyons).

Medlar **(Mespilus germanica)**—Open arse (Gerarde, 1633, index); open ars tree (Turner, Names, 1548). The fruit has an open, more or less hairy disk between the calyx lobes from which the seeds slightly protrude. It is edible only in an incipient state of decay so odor may be added to the other characteristics that suggested this delightful name. Squeamish authors write "open-tail."

Butterfly Pea **(Clitoria mariana)**—Kittlebloem (J. D. Pasteur's Dutch translation of Bartram's Travels, 1794, p. 206); kittelaar = tickler or clitoris.

Lignumvitae **(Guaiacum sanctum)**—Pockwood (Hester, French Pockes, 1590); Indian Pock-wood, "of singular use in the cure of the French Poxes" (Gerarde, 1633, p. 1612).

Castor Oil Plant **(Ricinus communis)**—Kotzbohn (puke bean used to provoke vomiting; Pennsylvania German; Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 194).

Herb Mercury **(Mercurialis annua)**—Boy's mercury. Lyte (Herball, 1778, p. 78) notes: "drunken [it] causeth to engender male children." The older authors who entertained this fancy mistook the

sexes of this plant attributing the male-begetting property to the female plant. Contrawise they called the male plants girls' mercury.

Flowering Spurge **(Euphorbia corollata)**—Go-quick (St. Clair County, Michigan, and Lambton County, Ontario (Lyons). A good name for such a purging plant would be squatmore.

Touch-Me-Not **(Impatiens noli-tangere)** — Codded (i.e. podded) arsmart (Gerarde, Herball, 1597).

Papaya **(Carica papaya)**.—From Gerarde we quote: "John Van Vsel returning from Brazil in the year 1607 showed me a book in which it was said that 'of the Portugals that dwelt there, it was called **Mamoera**,' and the fruit **mamaon**, of the similitude I think they have with dugs, which by the Spaniards are called Mamis and Tetas." He calls it Dug Tree (Herball, 1633, p. 1609).

Angelica **(Angelica archangelica)**—Skytes, a term perhaps in part explained by another name of the plant, bellyache root (Lyons).

Tupelo **(Nyssa biflora)**—Bottle-arsed tupelo (Bernard Romans, East and West Florida, 1775, p. 29); recent authors call the trunk scarcely more elegantly, "swell-butted."

Scarlet Pimpernel **(Anagallis arvensis)**—Roder hinkelderem, and similar terms, meaning red chicken guts (Pennsylvania German, Lick and Brendle, 1932, p. 189). The High German word is Huhnerdarm.

Persimmon **(Diospyros virginiana)**—Ralph Hamor's "Pissmein plums" (Present Estate of Virginia, 1615, 1860 reprint, p. 22), probably is not what it seems, but rather a variant spelling of persimmon.

Bindweed **(Convolvulus sepium)** — Martyn (Rousseau's Botany, 1794) notes "Ladies Smock (forgive the vulgar name) has the calyx gaping a little" (OED). The calyx is enclosed by large bracts and when the flower, twisted in conical form, is just emerging from between them, its appearance is suggestive. Pisspot (Britten and Holland), probably refers to the open shape of the flower.

Lungwort **(Pulmonaria officinalis)**—Virgin Mary's milk-drops (Britten and Holland); extension of the miracle.

Gutwort **(Globularia alypum)**—Gerarde calls this plant Gutwort from its strong purging faculty (Herball, 1633, p. 507) and Parkinson (Theatrum Botanicum 1640, p. 199) adds trouble-belly.

Tomato **(Lycopersicon esculentum)**—An old name was Love Apple, but the present vast consumption of tomatoes, without devastating results, indicates that old belief in their stimulating properties was misplaced. Lyte (Herball, 1578) noted "There be two kinds of Amorus or Raging Love apples," of which this was supposed to be one.

Jimson Weed **(Datura stramonium)**—Bitchafotz (bitch cunt), bitchgraut (bitch-weed), fotzagraut (cuntweed), Pennsylvania German (Lick and Brendle, 1923, pp. 110-111).

Butter and Eggs **(Linaria vulgaris)**—Huns seech (dog's piss), Pennsylvania German (Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 130).

Squaw Root **(Conopholis americana)**—Clap-wort (Lyons).

Nanny-berry **(Viburnum lentago)**—Schofknoddel (sheep turds; so now we know what nanny-berry and similar terms mean), Pennsylvania German (Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 280). A high German name of the same meaning is: schafkoetel.

Dandelion **(Taraxacum taraxacum)**—"Diuretic, whence the French name (Pissenlit) with the vulgar English Pissabed and the equivalent Latin, Lectiminga" (Lyons). **Pissenlit** is recorded by L. W. Marchand (Voyage de Kalm en Amerique, Mem. Soc. Hist., Montreal, 8, 1880, p. 11), and Pissabed (Pissybed) has been noted in spoken use in Ontario, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Bennett W. Green in his "Word-Book of Virginia (1912 p. 324) stated that "children are warned not to pull dandelions . . . under the penalty of wetting their beds." The term occurs as Pisse-abed in Gerarde's Herbal, 1577, and was apparently in common use in 1636. Then John Heywood, the dramatist, wrote in his play, "Love's Mistress":

> Ceres was binding garlands for god Pan
> Of bluebottles and yellow pissabeds
> That grew among the wheat . . .

Pee-a-bed is an euphemistic (Britten and Holland), and Pish-the-bed an Irish form. Bedseecher (bedpiddler) and other terms of the same meaning occur in Pennsylvania German and bedezeker and bedpieser in Dutch (Lick and Brendle, 1923, pp. 72-73).

Cone-Flower **(Rudbeckia** sp.) — Nigger-tit (Texas Panhandle, Philip **F.** Allan).

Dog-Fennel **(Anthemis cotula)**—Piss-the-bed; children playing with it will be so affected (Massachusetts, F. E. L. Beal).

Daisy **(Chrysanthemum leucanthemum)**—Piss-abed (Cape Cod, Dialect Notes, 1(2), 1890, p. 56; an early record is in the New England Farmer, 1790, p. 313); pismire (Lyons).

Southernwood **(Artemisia abrotanum)**—This plant has a number of interesting names the derivation of which I have not as yet succeeded in tracing. They include boy's love, lad's love, lad's savour, and maiden's ruin.

Ragwort **(Senecio jacobaea)**—Marefart, provincial name in England, the reason for which is apparent in such other names as stinking Alexander and stinking Willie (Britten and Holland); culpepper (Lyons). According to the English authorities it is called also dog standard, stander, or standers. It may attract the urinary attentions of dogs as do many foul-smelling things; in other words is a pissing-post.

As an appendix to this section of the paper I add the following fanciful abstract of proceedings (written Washington, D. C., November 1917).

YOUNG BOTANISTS' RESEARCH CLUB
Meeting of October 31
Abstract of Program
Botany con amore

Oliver Goodfellow—Notes on the names of **Pinus** species.

Abstract: In referring to the foliage of pines, people use the terms, needles or pins, the latter about as commonly as the former. It is not likely that the coincidence of root in pin and **Pinus** is accidental. Only a slight variation in spelling produces the word penis for which also pin is a synonym. This does not take in account, furthermore, the very similar, in fact permissibly identical pronunciation of the words penis and pinus. I cannot but believe therefore that this relationship of the words, has been in the minds of authors when they have given scientific names to these **pini** which inspired by their ultimate contact with the bosom of Mother Earth have made such tall outgrowths. Confining ourselves to the native pines of our country, we easily find the following specific names worthy of attention.

Pinus apacheca—probably something wild and wooly.

Pinus attenuata—Alas!

Pinus balfouriana—A noble one.

Pinus contorta—Ouch!

Pinus coulteri—The accompanying fruits are the largest known; in excess of 10 pounds each.

Pinus divaricata—Probably on the **Didelphis** model.

Pinus edulis—In what company?

Pinus flexilis—How very unfortunate.

Pinus inops—Of no interest whatever.

Pinus megalocarpa—Big stones; big stick also, it is hoped.

Pinus muricata—**Felis domestica** too is fixed this way.

Pinus ponderosa—The Roman brand.

Pinus rigida—The pink of perfection.

Pinus sabiniana—Possibly a relic of the famous rape.

The study of **pini** is very interesting and I trust this reference to my humble researches will lead others to probe this well of learning which is almost virgin.

R. E. Search, M. D.—The vernacular names for **Ephedra antisyphilitica.**

Abstract by secretary:

The scientific name of this plant embodies an idea of its powers that was undoubtedly borrowed from the public. The vernacular name clap-brush carries the same idea, and the cognomens, Brigham Young weed, Mormon tea, and whore-house tea indicate whom the people deem most in need of the Ephedra's curative principle.

A. B. Struse—Clitoriana:

Our single species of a genus abundantly represented in the tropics, has large and beautiful flowers which, color excluded, strongly suggest the human female pudenda. The North American species was named by Linnaeus **Clitoria mariana.** It has been asserted that the honor of the name belongs to Queen Mary of England, but as she was no contemporary of the scientist, it seems improbable that she was the inspsiration for this romantic designation. Is it not more likely that the great Linnaeus immortalized the most interesting personal possession of some humbler Mary, with which he had opportunity to become intimately acquainted?

Among the exotic species of the genus, the following are worth noticing:

Clitoria amazona—Probably in allusion to majestic proportions.
Clitoria coccinea—Undoubtedly a well-used one.
Clitoria erecta—Ready for the fray.
Clitoria lasciva—Appropriate in character.
Clitoria nana—Little, but oh my!
Clitoria phryne—Phryne was some girl.
Clitoria pudica—All that Phryne was not.
Clitoria tristis—We trust not for want of attention.

A. Bard—Original stanzas entitled:

ROSE HIPS*

How formed and fit to catch the glance
What beauties to the eye revealing
We look, we gaze, not once askance
And linger, further glances stealing.

Compact, full, and firm and rosy,
(I trust my riddle for you's no poser
That instead of the fruit that follow posy
You know I sing of the hips of Rosa).

R. E. Condite—Interesting species of Orchis.

Abstract. The genus **Orchis** is a large one and only a few of the species in which the essential character of the genus is emphasized will be mentioned. The name **Orchis** means **testis** and when we find species named **elegans, formosa,** and **peramoena** we may be sure that in the minds of the authors of these names, these species measured up to the high standard which men usually hold for these organs. Those

* The usually staid "Standardized Plant Names" (1942) calls **Rosa gymnocarpa,** the Baldhip Rose.

of still superior mould are indicated by the names **macra** and **maxima,** while other qualities more or less desirable as the case may be are suggested by such cognomens as **abortiva, atropurpurea, carnea, dilatata, impudica,** and **intacta.** Tribute is paid to the genital equipment of various animals in the terms: **caprina, cimicina** (for a bug too great a compliment), **draconia, simia,** and **taurica.** The prominence of man in this respect is recognized by such names as **anthropomorpha, mascula,** and **militaris.** Individual men, many of them, are honored, as by the names **Comperiana, Hookeri** and the like. We find also the species **susannae,** the grounds for the selection of which I am at a loss to surmise, unless Susan was one of those girls satisfied only by an ever-growing orchidial equipment.

INVERTEBRATES

This section is weaker than I had hoped for, as I have been vaguely informed that salt-water fishermen have rather robust names for many of the lower organisms they incidentally handle. I never had a good opportunity to collect such names myself and despite considerable effort, I have been unable to get much co-operation. The results are presented, as a beginning, for what they are worth.

Sea anemone (Anthozoa)—Horse's-ass, Maine (Philip F. Allan).

Jelly-fish (Scyphozoa)—Tickle-cunt, Northeastern Banks (F. W. Wallace).

Sea-urchin (Echinoidea)—John Josselyn (An Account of Two Voyages to New England, 1638, 1663 (1674, Reprint Boston 1865, p. 87) wrote "The Whore is a shell-fish" and described it recognizably as a sea-urchin. The Oxford English Dictionary does not give this signification to the word, hence American origin may be postulated. I heard the term whore's-egg in common use even among the women on Matinicus Island, Maine and thought it one of the most marvellous of all local names. It is worth noting that sea-urchins are sold as "sea-eggs" in the West Indies.

Clam (probably **Mya arenaria**)—Pisser, New York, New Jersey (Schoepf, Johann D., Travels in the Confederation (1783-1784) Transl. Alfred J. Morrison, 1911, Vol. 1, p. 15); piss-clam (B. W. Green, Word-book of Virginia Folk-speech, 1912, p. 324).

Razorclam (**Solenidae**)—Pecker-snout, Oregon coast (S. P. Young).

Dungeness crab (**Cancer magister**)—Old pecker squeezer, Northwest coast (S. P. Young).

Dung beetles (**Coprini**)—In the 1743 edition of his famous work, Catesby referred to beetles of the genus **Canthon** as tumble-turds (French **Fouille-merde**, shit-digger) and to those of the genus **Phaneus** as King tumble-turds (French **roi des roule-fiente**, King of the dung-rollers). The following account is quoted from the 1791 edition:

"The Tumble-Turds. These insects being endowed with the like sagacity of the Turkey Buzzard find out their subsistence by the excellency of their noses, which direct them in flights to the excrement just fallen from man or beast on which they instantly drop and fall unanimously to work in forming balls, etc., which they transfer with a mixture of earth. So intent are they at their work, that tho' handled, or otherwise interrupted, they persist in their economical employment without apprehension of danger." (Catesby, Mark. Nat. Hist. Carolina, etc., 1791, Vol. 2, p. 111).

I have made similar observations to his; namely, that when these insects in flight run into a rising column of scent, they do not scout around and find its source as a bird would, but "let loose all holts" and drop forthwith on or near the dung.

On Plate 111, Catesby figures a **Canthon** with a ball of dung and separately a **Phaneus carnifex,** which in the text he refers to as the male. "These," he says, "Are commonly called King Tumble-Turds, tho' by what appears, they assume no pre-eminence, but without distinction partake of the like dirty drudgery with the rest." (p. 111.)

The information is given in English and French in the above-cited work and in Latin and German in the following:

Eisenberger, N. F. and Lichtensteger, G., 1750, Piscium Serpentium, Insectorum x x x quas marcus Catesby in x x x Carolinae, Floridae x x x tradidit, etc., Nurnberg. Appendix 1777, p. 6.

The vernaculars in Latin are denatured, but in the German we find "Konige unter dem Koszkafern" King of the dung beetles).

In Pennsylvania German, a tumblebug is a **Kihdreckroller** (cow-dung roller) according to M. B. Lambert, "A Dictionary of the non-English Words of the Pennsylvania-German Dialect," 1924.

John Brickell in "The Natural History of North Carolina," 1737, wrote "The Tumble-turds are a species of the Beetles and so called from their constant rowling the Horsedung (whereon they feed) from one place to another, 'till it is no bigger than a small bullet."

Ants (**Formicoidea**)—In the United States any ant may be called a piss-ant (older usage pismire, of various spellings). If published references are wanted, Green, B. W., "Word-book of Virginia Folk-speech" (1912, p. 324), and L. W. Payne for East Alabama (Dialect Notes, 3 (5), 1909, p. 357) may be cited for the modern form. In Louisiana the term may be rendered as "pees-ant" under the influence of the French pronounciation of **pisser.** A "gag" worth relating avers that a flustered young lady at a picnic made the transposition: "Piss on that step-ant."

Ascidian (**Molgula pellucida**)—Piss-ball, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia (W.L.M.).

FISHES

Gaff-topsail catfish **(Felichthys marinus)**—Turd-rustler, vicinity of Galveston, Texas (Philip F. Allan).

Columbia River Sucker **(Catostomus macrocheilus)**—Shit-house trout, lower Columbia River (S. P. Young).

Cut-lips Minnow **(Exoglossum maxillingua)**—Nigger-dick (Jordan D. S., and B. W. Evermann, The Fishes of North America, Bul. 47, U. S. Nat. Mus., Pt. 1, 1898, p. 327). The DAE, editors of which tried to avoid indecent expressions were doubtless unaware of the meaning of this one, for they reprinted it (p. 1602) though one of the worst. The more literal form "nigger-prick" is reported to me by Alfred C. Weed as heard in the District of Columbia.

Studfish **(Fundulus catenatus and F. stellifer)**—The anal fin, prickly in spring males, probably suggested the name cited (Jordan and Evermann, op. cit. 1, p. 648).

Sunfishes **(Lepominae)**—The names kiver and quiver are recorded as being applied to the common sunfish **(Eupomotis gibbosus)** and the red-breasted bream **(Lepomis auritus)** (vid. Kendall, W. C., Proc. Portland Soc. Nat. Hist. 3 (1) 1914, p. 50 and Schrenkeisen, Ray, Field Book of Fresh-water Fishes, 1938, pp. 244, 246), but it is probable that they are used for all sunfishes occurring where these words prevail.

When I first went to Washington, D. C. (1903), I heard the name "Kiver" for sunfishes and before long learned it was short for "cunt-kiver," these fishes being deemed of about the right size and shape to serve in that role. One of my mentors of the period, Dr. A. K. Fisher, said that this appellation was employed at Lake George, N. Y., and another, Professor F. E. L. Beard, reported it in the form Kiver-cunt from Massachusetts. A younger friend of more recent years, Philip F. Allan, has heard it as Kippy-cunt in New England. Shortened and derived forms are recorded as follows: Kiver (Maine, New York and Ohio); Kivy (New Hampshire); and quiver (Maine and New York).

Log-perch **(Percina caprodes)**—This species, and also other darters, according to Philip F. Allan, are called "Oklahoma son-of-a-bitch" in that State.

American Sole **(Achirus fasciatus)**—Making proper allowance for their older names, DeKay (Nat. Hist. N. Y., Zoology, 4, 1842, p. 304) notes this as being called "coverclip" and G. Browne Goode (Aquatic Animals, 1884, p. 177) as "coverclip" or "cover," in New Jersey. As "Kiver" is a dialetic form of "cover," the relationship of these terms to "cunt-kiver" for the sunfishes is obvious. And although the two groups of fishes achieved the suggestive shape through radically different processes, the sunfishes by lateral, and the sole by vertical, flattening, the reason for the names appears to be the same. Therefore, "clip" is to

be regarded as a synonym of "cunt," a not unreasonable conclusion in view of one of the OED definitions; namely, "that which clips or clasps." It is of interest in this connection that the Scottish vernacular includes the terms "clip" and "clippie," meaning maiden. Yet some think it queer that others are intrigued by the study of dialectic language.

As an appendix to "Fishes," I may add two names for which technical equivalents are unknown; namely pintle-fish, so-called from its shape, with usage in Scotland as early as 1549 (OED), and yard- or shame-fish by John Josselyn in "New England's Rarities Discovered," etc., 1672 (Reprint Trans. & Coll. Amer. Antiquarian, Soc., 4, 1860, p. 163).

FROGS

Pickerel Frog **(Rana palustris)**—Although frogs in general and even toads may eject urine in a noticeable jet when suddenly flushed, the name "Pisser" was more or less fixed on this species in Grant County, Indiana, possibly because of its orange thighs and underparts, suggesting staining and also because of its unpleasant odor.

REPTILES

Loggerhead Turtle **(Caretta caretta)**—Samuel Clarke (A true and faithful account of the four chiefest Plantations of the English in America, etc., 1670, p. 21), writing of loggerhead turtles in the Bermudas, says: "Shortly after their coming to these islands, the male and female couple, which they call cooting, this they continue about three days together, during which time they will scarce separate though a boat come to them, nor hardly when they are smitten." This may be toned down from H. Stubbe's account in the Philosophical Transactions (Royal Society of London, 2, 1667, p. 500) which asserts that "The Tortoises . . . coot for fourteen daies together."

These references do not involve unconventional names for this turtle, although nothing would be more natural than to call cooters those who coot, but they may have a bearing on that term as applied to various turtles in the southeastern United States. See below.

Snapping Turtle **(Chelydra serpentina)**—Kawan or tortue kawan, the latter term signifying female genitalia (E. O. Becker, Dialect Notes, 4 (6), 1917, p. 421).

Musk Turtle **(Sternotherus odoratus)**—Stinkpot is applied over the greater part of eastern North America; the odor of large specimens is exceedingly rank (John K. Strecker, Contrib. Baylor Univ. Mus., 16, 1928, p. 20). Allied terms include: stinking turtle, stinky pot, stinky turtle, stinky pond turtle (Henry W. Fowler, Ann. Rep.,

New Jersey State Museum, 1906 (1907), p. 223); and stinkin' jim, East Alabama (L. W. Payne, Jr., Dialect Notes, 3 (5), 1909, p. 376).

Pond Turtles **(Emydidae)**—"Among the negroes of the Gullah district of South Carolina, a cooter is any kind of hard-shelled turtle. The name has spread all over the South, but at present time principally refers to large river and pond turtles of the genus Pseudemys (John K. Strecker, op. cit., p. 6). G. Browne Goode (Fisheries of the U. S., 1884) has recorded this name for the box turtle **(Terrapene carolina)** (p. 158) and "Florida cooter" for **Pseudemys concinna** (p. 155). Reed Smith (Gullah, Bul. 190, Univ. of South Carolina, 1926, p. 32) treats the term as a surviving native African word, spelling it "cootuh," which after all is only the way almost anyone in the South would pronounce "cooter." The matter presented under loggerhead (ante) would seem to throw considerable doubt on Smith's theory.

I have heard the name in various Southeastern localities, but without explanation. It may well trace to the cooting of early Bermudian usage. The terrapins so commonly seen on snags or other supports near the waters lie in copula for hours together and the box tortoises draw attention to their copulation by the knocking together of their hard shells.

Collared Lizard **(Crotaphytus collaris)**—Gray bitch, Panhandle of Texas; glade devil, Missouri and Arkansas (John K. Strecker, op. cit., p. 11).

Iguana **(Basiliscus americanus)** — Lagarto Jesucristo, Central America (because of its ability to move over water; press account).

Iguana **(Basilicus vittatus)**—Cockman, British Honduras (its appearance in display suggests a human erection, Karl P. Schmidt).

BIRDS

Works cited rather frequently in the text in shortened form include the following:

Suolahti, Hugo
  1909. Die Deutschen Vogelnamen. 34+540 pp.

Swainson, Charles
  1866. The Folk Lore and Provincial Names of British Birds. viii + 243 pp.

Swann, H. Kirke
  1913. A Dictionary of English and Folk-Names of British Birds. xii + 266 pp.

Tinamous **(Tinamidae)**—A. E. Brehm (Illustrirtes Thierleben, 4, 1867, p. 515) calls these Steiszhuhner, a term that Theodore Jasper (Ornithology or the Science of Birds, 1878, p. 126) translates as "buttock hens."

Common Loon **(Gavia immer)**—Arsfeet, from the situation of their legs just behind (John Ray, The Ornithology of Francis Willughby, 1678, p. 26).

Grebes **(Colymbidae)**—Arse-foot (English) arsevoet (Dutch), arsfouss (Low German), parsvitj (Helgoland), steiszfusz (High German).

Little Grebe **(Poliocephalus ruficollis)**—Arsfoot (Willughby-Ray, 1678, p. 340); dodaars (tuft ass, Holland, Newton, Dict., 1894, p. 156); Foot-arse, foot-in-arse (Cheshire, England, Swann, p. 89); foot-in-the-airs duck (Scotland, J. R. Malloch); small arsfoot (Willughby-Ray, 1678).

Horned Grebe **(Colymbus auritus)**—Aarsvoet, (arsefoot, Dutch, Seligmann & Houttuyn, Vog. Edwards & Catesby, 1772-1781, 2, pl. 87); floaskitur (marsh excrement), flodskitur (flood excrement), shortened in use to floskit and flodtskit, respectively (Hantzsch, Vogelwelt Islands, 1905, p. 96); gehornter steissfuss (horned arsefoot, H. Nehrling, Ornis nordlichen Illinois, Journ. f. Orn., 1880-85, p. 149).

Great Crested Grebe **(Colymbus cristatus)**—Arsfoot (Merrett, Pinax rerum naturalium Brittanicarum, 1667); arsvoote (Dutch, Swainson, 1886, p. 215).

Holboell's Grebe **(Colymbus grisegena holbolli)**—Arsfoot (Willughby-Ray, 1678, p. 340); rothalssteiszfusz (red-throated arsefoot, Helms, Avifauna Ostgronlands, 1911, p. 279); shitepoke, from its "white-washing" the fish-wears, Matinicus Island, Maine; switch-ass, same locality (W.L.M.).

Black-Throated Grebe **(Podilymbus podiceps)**—Acintle (Aztec **atl** = water + tzintli = arse; Santamaria Diccionario x x x de Americanismos, 1942, I, p. 34); arschfusz (because it has the feet just under the tail; Hoslin, Des Ritters Carl von Linne Lehr-Buch uber das Natur-System, I, 1781, p. 322); arse-foot (Century Dict., 1913); blauschnabelsteiszfusz (Ger. blue-billed arsefoot, Reichenow, Vog. Zool. Gart., 1882-84, p. 17); buntschnabliger Steiszfusz (Ger., pied-billed arsefoot, Latham, Uebersicht Vogel, 4, 1811, p. 478); Louisianischer Steiszfusz (Ger. Louisiana arsefoot, Latham, loc. cit.); Steissfuss mit bunten Schnabel (Wied, Journ. f. Orn., 1859, p. 248).

Diving petrel **(Pelecanoides urinatrix)**—"Called 'Horse-fart' by the whalers at Kerguelen" (H. N. Moseley quoted by Osbert Salvin, Rep. Sci. Results Voy. H.M.S. Challenger, Zool. 2, 1881, p. 146).

Red-Billed Tropic-Bird **(Phaethon aethereus)**—Fetu en cul (straw in ass) referring to its long, slender tail (Jean Baptiste Du Tertre, Histoire generale des Antilles (1567-1571, 1667 II, p. 276); paille en cul (same meaning, Pere Labat, Nouveaux voyage aux Isles d'Amerique, 1724, 2, p. 481). John G. Wells (A Catalog of Birds of Grenada, 1886, p. 631) notes the term as in use "to this day" on Isle de Rhonde; grand paille-en-cul (big straw-in-ass), paille-en-cul de Cayenne (Cayenne

straw-in-ass; G. L. Buffon, Histoire naturelle des oiseaux, 1771-1786, 9, p. 224).

Yellow-Billed Tropic-Bird (**Phaethon lepturus americanus**)—Paille-en-cul (straw-in-ass), paille-en-cul blanc (white straw-in-ass; A. D. Brisson, Ornithologia sive synopsis x x x avium, 1763, p. 487); petit paille-en-cul (little straw-in-ass; G. L. L. Buffon, Histoire naturelle des oiseaux, 1771-1786, 9, p. 226).

European Cormorant (**Phalacrocorax carbo**)—Crot-pescherot (Fr. dung-fisher, Buffon, Hist. Nat. Ois., 1771-1786, 9, p. 190). Feuchtars or Vuchtars (Ger., wetass, Gesner, Historiae Animalium, III, 1717, p. 120). "The places which it inhabits are covered with its filthy excrements. The Greenlanders therefore, call it Tingmingkpot, or the bird afflicted with a looseness" (Pennant, Arctic Zoology, 2, 1785, p. 584).

Pelagic Cormorant (**Phalacrocorax pelagicus pelagicus**) — Ouril; malinkij uril (Russian). "Uril means cormorant in the Bering Sea region, but x x x you will not find it in any Russian dictionary. The nearest word is **urilink** which means a urinal or chamberpot, so I assume that **uril** refers to the cormorant's well-known ex-anal squirts." (Austin M. Clark, letter of June 1, 1944). The names cited may therefore be rendered "squirter" and "black squirter."

Red-Faced Cormorant (**Phalacrocorax urile**)—In the same region, this species is known as **bolschoj uril** (big squirter). It is recorded also as **oreel**, a variant of the same basic term from which the technical specific name also appears to be derived.

Man-o'-War Bird (**Fregata magnificens**)—Some Florida fishermen believe it drops excrement which, taken by fishes stupefies them and renders them easy prey. It is therefore called "poison bird." (H. H. Bailey, Birds of Florida, 1925, p. 19).

The Heron Family

Europeans seems not to have been so impressed as we with the shitting powers of herons, but they did take notice. Thus Turner (1544, 1903 reprint, p. 39) relates of the common European gray heron (corresponding to our Great Blue) that it "routs Eagles or Hawks, if they attack it suddenly, by very liquid mutings of the belly and thereby defends itself."

From Europe we have a tale (though it may well be of more ancient origin) that fits well with the subject matter of this paper. The Rev. Charles Swainson (op. cit., 1886, p. 145) tells with respect to the gray heron (**Ardea cinerea**), "It is said in Ireland that small eels pass through the intestines of a heron uninjured, so that it swallows the same individual several times in succession. This belief was shared by Pontoppidan, who goes most minutely into particulars to explain

the process." Turning to Pontoppidan, who was a bishop, we learn that "The Heron has only one strait gut* which distinguishes it from other birds.xxxHence it comes to passxxxthat a Heron may eat a snake or an eel three times over, which is hardly swallowed before one sees the head or body pass out again from the bird's fundament, and then immediately the bird turns about, and swallows it a second or a third time before he will relinquish it" (Erich Pontoppidan, The Natural History of Norway (originally published before 1753) transl. 1755, 2, p. 77).

Good stories are long-lived and this one, with an improvement, was current in my boyhood environment, Grant County, Indiana. In it, the heron (our species, **Ardea herodias**, of course) becoming disgusted with the slippery evasiveness of its prey, swallows the eel again, then quickly sticks its bill up its ass and triumphantly says, "There, circulate, damn ye, circulate!"

The name shite-poke for American herons is one of considerable interest. From earlier experience I came to believe that this term was practically a specific name for the little green heron. However, after collecting bird names on a large scale, I found the bittern running a close second in bearing this unenviable appellation and also learned that any member of the heron family (as well as a few other birds) may receive it. One author (Nelson, Vertebrates of New Jersey, 1890, p. 608) referred to the term as "meaningless," but his education must have been neglected. An ornithologist who should have known better once wrote: "I have never learned the meaning of this name" (Oologist, 37, 1920, p. 96). Yet the meaning is clear: shite is English of an earlier generation for shit, and poke for bag, though neither element of the name is yet entirely out of currency. As a whole, the term seems to imply that a bird so named is a mere shitbag, capable of producing the commodity at will. As other names of herons indicate, the birds are able when flushed to lay a "chalk-line," "shit a rod," or "shit a quart," it is evident that the popular mind has been impressed with both linear and volumetric aspects of heron shitting. To date I have found the following variants of shitepoke—34 in all:

pokeshike	sheidpoke	shikepoke	shitpoke
scheidpoke	sheilpoke	shikepolk	shypoke
scheytepoke	sheitpoke	shikpoke	shypook
schitepoke	shidpoke	shipepoke	shypork
schytepoke	shidepoke	shipoke	shytepoke
shackpoke	shiedpoke	shitepoke	skikepoke
shadpoke	shightpoke	shitepolk	skitepoke
shagpoke	shikecoat	shitepout	skypoke
sheidpok	shikepoe		

* Note names "a' darmicha" (one-gutted) and "straight-gut," pp. 27 and 30. Some would say tradition is strong; others that men keep on marvelling at the same things.

Probably the variety is in part due to the writings of those who would render decent the supposedly indecent; the field is wide open yet as the total number of possible "permutations and combinations" of these syllables and letters is almost infinite.

Great White Heron **(Ardea occidentalis)**—Arsenicker, Florida east coast (John C. Phillips).

Great Blue Heron **(Ardea herodias)**—Arsnicker, Bahama Islands (C. B. Cory, Birds of......, 1880, p. 166); Andros Island, Bahamas (John I. Northrop, Ank., 1891, p. 77); big blue shitepoke, Chester County, Pennsylvania (F. L. Burns, Ornithology of ...., 1919, p. 38); cream-shitter, southeastern Alaska (I.N.Gabrielson); sheidpoke (Thomas R. Brendle, Pennsylvania German, Names of Birds, The Perkiomen Region 2 (4) 1923, p. 64); shadpoke, shagpoke, Cedarville, California (R. M. Tullar, letter Feb. 16, 1942) shidpoke, Blue Springs, Nebraska (Merton Crannell); shikepoke, Nova Scotia (R. W. Tufts); western Oregon (C. C. Presnall); Manhattan, Kansas (G. A. Whitney); Desert Game Range, Nevada (Frank W. Groves); shipoke, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia (J. M. McIntosh); shitepoke, Ossipee, N. M. (Mrs. C. H. Pratt); Haverhill, Mass. (P.G.B. Oologist, 7, 1890, p. 112); Shinnecock Bay, Long Island, N. Y. (C. Cottam); Wytheville, Va. (George A. Seagle); Port Byron, Ill. (John J. Schafer); Gatlinburg, Tenn. (Arthur Stupka); Manhattan, Kans. (G. A. Whitney); British Columbia, Canada (Kenneth C. Alexander); Tule Lake, Calif. (C. G. Fairchild); shitpoke, Emmett, Idaho (Roger E. Allen); northern Nevada and northeastern California (R. M. Tullar); shit-a-quart, Petersburg, Alaska (I. N. Gabrielson); shit-a-rod, California (A. Wetmore); shitquick, Lake Okechobee, Florida (Marvin Chandler). As the badge worn by wardens of the National Audubon Society bore the figure of a heron, local citizens dubbed the organization the Shitquick Society; shypoke, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada (S. J. Leach, George Warren).

American Egret **(Casmerodius albus egretta)**—White shypoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wisc. Conserv. Bul., 1940, p. 56).

Snowy Egret **(Egretta thula thula)**—Whitepoke, New York (DeKay, Birds of N. Y., 1844, p. 221; J. P. Giraud, Birds of Long Island, 1844, p. 283); East Pennsylvania and New Jersey (W. P. Turnbull, Birds of——, 1869, p. 36).

Reddish egret **(Dichromanassa rufescens)**—White arsnicker, for the white phase, Bahamas (G. M. Allen, Auk, 1905, p. 121).

Louisiana Heron **(Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis)**—Shagpoke, Savannah, Ga. (Gilbert R. Rossignol); shikepoke, Gainesville, Fla. (L. P. Mills.)

Little Blue Heron **(Florida caerulea)**—Shagpoke, Savannah, Ga. (Gilbert R. Rossignol); shidepoke, East Alabama (L. W. Payne, Dialect Notes, 3 (4), 1908, p. 323); shightpoke, Harper, Kansas (Lem Laird); shikepoke, Gainesville, Florida (L. P. Mills); shitepoke, Logan,

Ohio (Charles W. Ziegler), Floyd County, Kentucky (Johnnie A. Patten), St. Charles, Arkansas (Robert H. Smith); whitepoke, the white phase, Cape May, New Jersey (Witmer Stone, Bird Studies at Old—, 1, 1937, p. 116.).

Green Heron **(Butorides virescens)**—Several American ornithologists have been constrained to remark upon the popular names of this bird. Alexander Wilson set the example in 1813 when he referred to, but did not cite "a very vulgar and indelicate nickname" (American Ornithology, 7, p. 102). Giraud (1844) noted a universal cognomen which "we cannot with propriety indite" (Birds of Long Island, p. 285). However, he slipped into the index one almost as bad, viz.: "chalk line." Jasper and Studer (Birds of North America, 1881, p. 8) note "the public x x x having stigmatized him with a vulgar and indelicate nickname." Coues, though by taste rather free, did not venture to put the worst names in his "Key," commenting upon them in the Fourth Edition (1903 p. 881) in the following sentence: "This is a very pretty and engaging little Heron in spite of the ridiculous nicknames by which it is well known to the great unwashed democracy of America."

The following catalog will make clearer the situation to which these writers refer:

A' darmicha, Pennsylvania "Dutch," Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (Herbert H. Beck, Ornithology of —, 1924, p. 13). In a letter of June 30, 1944, Professor Beck kindly explains the derivation of this term. "A" stands for "ein" = one, "darmicha" = gutted; thus one-gutted, the food apparently going through very easily.

Caga-leche (Sp., shit-milk), West Indies (James Bond, Birds of—, 1936, p. 26).

Cagon, (Sp., shitter), Cuba (F. J. Santamaria, Diccionairo General de Americanismos, 1942, 1, p. 58).

Chalk-line (from the whitish "line" of feces it lets fly), Massachusetts (C. J. Maynard, The Naturalists Guide, 1877, p. 144), New York (DeKay, Birds of—, 1844, p. 224), Chester County, Pennsylvania (F. L. Burns, Ornithology of—, 1919, p. 39); cream-shitter, Iowa (W. B. Bell); mud-poke (such names are not in themselves indecent, but they cannot be explained except by reference to the basic term shitpoke), Chester County, Pennsylvania (F. L. Burns, Ornithology of—, 1919, p. 39); California (Cronise, Natural Wealth of—, 1868, p. 469); poke (this abbreviation to which the preceding remark applies, is rather widely recorded, that is from Massachusetts to Florida and westward to North Dakota and Nebraska. It occurs in Bartram's "Travels," 1792; shackpoke, Okechobee, Florida (Marvin Chandler); shagpoke, North Central Mississippi (Wm. Shepherd); schytepoke, probably an euphemistic English spelling, not Dutch as noted in DeKay's Birds of New York (1844, p. 224). Recorded also for the Dis-

trict of Columbia (Coues and Prentiss, Avifauna Columbiania, 1883, p. 99) and Illinois (Ridgway, Cat. Birds, Ill., 1874, p. 386); sheilpoke (Gene Stratton Porter, Outing, 40 (6), 1902, p. 663); sheitpoke, South China, Maine (Mrs. R. M. Jones), Steelton, Pennsylvania (Clara L. Hershey), Cambridge, Maryland (H. M. Harrison); shidepoke, Ohio (D. Lange, Birds of—, 1905, p. 52), southern Kentucky (Sadie F. Price, American Ornithology, 1904, p. 147), western Kentucky (A. L. Pickens), northeastern Iowa (Mrs. Robert I. Bordner); shiedpoke, Blue Springs, Nebraska (A. J. Wondra); shike-coat, western Kentucky (A. L. Pickens); shikepoe, South Carolina (A. L. Pickens); shikepoke, Rhode Island (Charles Blagden, 1776-80, Bul. N. Y. Public Library, 1903, p. 432), Cortland County, N. Y. (M.D.M., Jr., Oologist, 1886, p. 6), District of Columbia (Mavide Fiske), Durham County, North Carolina (E. Seeman, Birds of—, 1929, p. 154), South Carolina (James Henry Rice, Aftermath 1934, p. 81), James Island, Florida (R. W. Williams, Oologist, 35, 1918, p. 86), Key West, Florida, (Earle R. Greene), Greenbrier County, West Virginia (T. W. Surber, Birds of—, 1889), Indianapolis, Indiana (Ross O. Stevens), Manhattan, Kansas (G. A. Whitney); shikpoke, Meridian, Mississippi (Leo T. Murray); Shipoke, Hillsboro, Ohio (Katie M. Roads); shipoke, Maine (O. W. Knight, Birds of—, 1908, p. 133); Florida east coast (John C. Phillips), Sawyer County, Wisconsin (Karl W. Kahmann); shitepoke, this term is used throughout the eastern half of the United States (Maine to Wisconsin, south to Florida and Texas); it was recorded by B. S. Barton for Pennsylvania in 1799; a single record from California may be from an Easterner who had moved there; shitepolk, Noblesville, Indiana (Earl Brooks); shypoke, North Carolina (C. S. Brimley, Ornithologist and Oologist, 14, 1889, p. 108), Chester County, South Carolina (L. M. Loomis, Bul. Nuttall Orn. Club, 4, 1879, p. 217), southern Illinois (Charles Askins, Game Bird Shooting, 1931, p. 53), Manhattan, Kansas (G. A. Whitney); shytepoke, Yates County, New York (C. F. Stone, Oologist, 37, 1920, p. 20), Ohio (Lynds Jones, Birds of—, 1903, p. 56), Michigan (Oologist, 10, 1893, p. 74); skikepoke, Cortland County, New York (M.D.M., Jr., Oologist, 3, 1886, p. 6); skitepoke, Hancock's Bridge, New Jersey (H. M. Pancoast).

Black-Crowned Night Heron (**Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli**)—Bihoreau tayazu-guira (Fr., tayazu-guira night heron. A Leotaud, Oiseaux de l'Isle de la Trinidad, 1866). This term embodies the Guarani (South American) Indian name cited by Felix de Azara (Apuntamentes para la Historia x x x del Paraguay, 1802-1805) as tayasu-guira. As he translates the cognomen as pajaro chaucho, i.e. dirty bird, doubtless it is in allusion to the bird's free shitting qualities.

Grey Shitepolk, southwestern South Dakota (Chandler R. Young); mudpoke, see under green heron; Chester County, Pennsylvania (Frank L. Burns, Ornithology of—, 1919, p. 40); poke; see under green

heron; Maine (Howard L. Mendall); pokeshike, South Shore, Massachusetts (Wm. G. Vinal); pouacre (Fr. nasty, filthy; doubtless from the free alvine discharges, A. D. Brisson, Ornithologie, etc., 1760, 5, p. 462); Buffon (Hist. Nat. Oiseaux, 8, 1780, p. 254), has also pouacre de Cayenne; pouacre tachete (spotted pouacre i. e., see preceding, the young, F. P. and A. P. Penard, De Vogels van Guyana, 1, 1908, p. 167); qua bird. "It is called in America the qua bird, from the note imitating that word, in a hoarse kind of voice not ill resembling a person attempting to vomit" (John Latham, General History of Birds, 9, 1824, pp. 58-59); schytepoke, northeastern Illinois (James S. White); shikepoke, South Shore, Massachusetts (Wm. G. Vinal), Rhode Island, Blagden 1776-80 (R. H. Howe, Amer. Nat. 39, 1905, p. 402); Key West, Florida (Earle R. Greene); Larimer County, Colorado (Merlin K. Pitts); shitepoke, rather widely recorded. Without citing authorities I may note that I have records from the following Canadian Provinces and Usonian States; New Brunswick, Rhode Island, Ohio, North Dakota, Nebraska, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Utah, and California; shypoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 1940, p. 56); shytepoke, Winthrop, Iowa (Fred J. Pierce); shitpoke, Aroostook County, Maine (H. M. Estabrook, Dialect Notes, 3 (5), 1909, p. 415).

Yellow-Crowned Night Heron (**Nyctanassa violacea**)—Shikepoke, Key West, Florida (Earle R. Greene).

American Bittern (**Botaurus lentiginosus**)—Big shitpoke, Sawyer County, Wisconsin (Karl W. Kahmann); Indian shitepoke, Illinois (E. K. Sands, Oologist, 14, 1897, p. 82); poke; see remark under green heron; Michigan (W. B. Barrows, Michigan Bird Life, 1912, p. 127); Illinois (O. M. Schantz, Birds of—, 1928, p. 31); Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, pp. 56-57).

Schitepoke, eastern Kansas (Claude W. Hibbard); schytepoke, northeastern Illinois (James S. White); St. Louis, Missouri (Julius Hurter); shagpoke, Burns, Oregon (Richard M. Tullar); shag, probably a shortening of this term is sent from Big River, Saskatchewan by J. Sixsmith; sheidpok, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (O. J. Gromme); sheidpoke, North and South Dakota (Jesse Jensen); sheitpoke, Sedgwick County, Kansas (Harrison D. Buschell); shidepoke, Minnesota (P. L. Hatch, Birds of Minnesota, 1892, p. 84); Hudson, Iowa (Mrs. Robert I. Bordner); Monroe County, Wisconsin (Donald Y. McBeath); Havana Illinois (Homer L. Bradley); Swift Current, Saskatchewan (R. M. Blakely); shiedpoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul., 5, 1940, pp. 56-57); Colorado (Dartt, Mrs. Maxwell, 1879, p. 144); shightpoke, Harper, Kansas (Lem Laird); shikpoke, Fort Williams, Ontario (W. G. Renton); Michigan (Mich. Dept. of Conservation Monthly, August 1932, p. 3); shikepoke, this term seems to have most usage in the North, and especially in Canada; received from: Nova

Scotia, Ontario, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Kansas, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Nevada; shikepolk, Lanigan, Saskatchewan (C. W. Robson); shipolk, Sebewaing, Michigan (R. O. Avery); Stillwater, Minnesota (Geo. C. Kutz), Big Falls, Minnesota and Sidney, Montana (Clifford Harsh); shitepoke, application of this term to the bittern rivals its usage for the green heron. I have records from 27 States and provinces for the latter species and from 24 for the former; the distribution of "shitepoke" for the green heron is almost entirely in the eastern half of the United States, while this name for the bittern is more frequent in the Midwest and in the territory along both sides of the U. S.-Canadian boundary. It will do no harm to quote here from an author who frankly explains the term. W. B. Mershon (in his Recollections, 1923, p. 25) wrote: "Bitterns or shitepokes, as they are called, with squawk and intestinal evacuation, spring into the air." Shitepolk, southwestern South Dakota (Chandler R. Young); shitepout, Quebec (Ernest D. Wintle, Birds of Montreal, 1896, p. 29). Shitpoke: I have personally verified the use of this name on Matinicus Island, Maine and at Horn Point, Virginia; shypoke, of nine records, five are from Canada (Ontario to Saskatchewan, three from the latter Province); the others are from Maryland, Wisconsin, and Minnesota; shypook, Florida (J. T. Townshend, Wild Life, Florida, 1875, p. 97); shypork, apparently Illinois (F. Henry Yorke, American Field 35 (8), 1891, pp. 169-171); shytepoke, Michigan (A. J. Cook, Birds of 1893, p. 41); skikepoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, pp. 56-57); Emerson, Manitoba (Wm. Milligan); skitepoke, Clarenceville, Quebec (W. T. J. Maloney); skypoke (Iroquois Dahl, Field and Stream, 38 (7), 1933, p. 1); slough poke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, pp. 56-57); such a name while not in itself indecent cannot be explained without reference to the basic term shitpoke; straight-gut, Iowa (W. F. Kubichek); this name implies that food easily goes through the bird.

Least Bittern **(Ixobrychus exilis)**—Little poke, Long Island, New York (J. P. Giraud; Birds of—, 1844, p. 396); little red poke, Union County, New Jersey (C. A. Urner); little shikepoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, p. 57), Salt Lake City, Utah (John W. Sugden); little shitpoke, Sawyer County, Wisconsin (Karl W. Kahmann); poke, New Jersey (Forest and Stream, 22, 1884, p. 25); shiedpoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, p. 57); shipepoke, Carlisle, Indiana (Mrs. Elizabeth G. Gilliland); shipoke, Wisconsin (W. E. Scott, Wis. Conservation Bul. 5, 1940, p. 47); shitepoke, Havre de Grace, Maryland (Odin Keane); Wisconsin (Scott, loc. cit); shypoke, Wisconsin (Scott, loc. cit); Minnesota (S. B. Swanson Fins, Feathers and Fur, No. 85, 1930, p. 16); shytepoke, Louisiana (G. A. Beyer, Avifauna of—, 1900, p. 92).

Storks and Ibises

So far as information has reached me, North American birds of these families have escaped the attentions of scatological observers, but that is no reason we should not enjoy the tales about them from other lands. Bartholomew (De Proprietatibus Rerum, 1535) is quoted,

"A stork is a waterfowl and purgeth herself with her own bill; for when she feeleth herself grieved with much meat, she taketh seawater in her bill, and putteth it in at her hinder hole, and so into her guts." (According to Lewis R. W. Loyd, Bird Facts and Fallacies, 1927, p. 165).

The same story is told of the Egyption or Sacred Ibis so it evidently is an ancient one. The late H. P. Attwater kindly favored me with the following extract on the subject from "The Health Pamphlet, by A. Wilford Hall, New York, 1889, p. 36:

THE EGYPTIAN IBIS

"The Ibis, a species of Egyptian Snipe whose food, gathered along the edge of the Nile, was of a very constipating character, was observed by the earliest naturalists to suck up the water of the river, and with its long bill to inject it into his anus, thus to aid a movement of this portion of the alimentary canal.

"Pliny says that this habit of the Ibis is what first suggested the use of **clysters** to the ancient Egyptian doctors, known to be the first medical practitioners of any nation, not excepting the Chinese (See Naturalis Historia, Lib. VIII., Dap. 41, Hagae, 1518).

"Other writers, such as Christianus Langius, have referred to the fact that this bird when attacked with constipation at some distance from the river and not able to fly from weakness, would be seen to crawl with drooping wings to the water's edge and administer its all-recuperating rectal treatment, when in a few minutes it would sail away in the full vigor of its vitality. It only remained after ages had passed away for some one in the fullness of time to carry this knowledge of the Egyptian snipe to its legitimate limit as applied to the more complex abdominal anatomy of the human organism."

Mallard **(Anas platyrhynchos)**—Old heavy-ass, lower Columbia River (Stanley P. Young).

Baldpate **(Anas americana)**—Shitter, Suisun Marshes, California (Emerson A. Stoner).

Shoveller **(Spatula clypeata)**—Bechleur de Merde (should be becheur; shit digger; Stanley C. Arthur, Birds of Louisiana, 1918, p. 23); shit-digger, Cameron, La. (W.L.M.), Mississippi Delta, La. (A. C. Martin); turd rassler (latter locality and authority). The names "chambermaid" and "scavenger" from Medicine Lake, Montana (B. M. Hazeltine) and "pile it" from Wisconsin (W. E. Scott) doubtless have allied meanings.

Bufflehead (**Charitonetta albeola**)—Splatter-ass, Gilroy, California (W. C. Colt).

Old Squaw (**Clangula hyemalis**)—At a venture, I would suggest that the name "Scoldenore" cited by Gurdon Turnbull (Names and Portraits of Birds, 1888, p. 89) from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is a contraction of "Scolding Whore." The bird is reported as being called "creamy-ass" on Hatteras Island, North Carolina (C. Cottam).

Ruddy Duck (**Erismatura jamaicensis rubida**)—Bubby duck, Winnieshiek Bottoms, Iowa (J. P. Malloy); cockmantail, North Carolina coast (C. Cottam). The ruddy duck has a number of epithets based on peculiarities of its tail, one of which frequent erection, may have to do with this name; Goddam, Louisiana, Texas (various explanations of this term have been offered, of which the best seems to be that (of S. C. Arthur, Birds of Louisiana, 1931) to the effect that the ruddy in its brick-red summer plumage brought to mind the red coats of the British soldiers who were named "goddems" or "goddams," from their favorite expletive, which cognomen was passed on to this spruce, red-coated duck; horse-turd coot, Cohasset and North Scituate, Massachusetts, and horse-turd dipper, Kennebunk, Maine, from their habit when alarmed of huddling in a mass (Gurdon Trumbull, Names and Portraits of Birds, 1888, p. 110); splatter-ass, Oregon (Ira N. Gabrielson), Suisun Marshes, California (Emerson A. Stoner), and Alturas and Cedarville, Calif. (Richard M. Tullar); wedge-ass, Northwestern States (Stanley P. Young).

Red-Breasted Merganser (**Mergus serrator**)—Stud, stud duck, Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee (W.L.M.).

Turkey Vulture (**Cathartes aura septentrionalis**)—Shit-house violet, Southeast (Stanley P. Young); oiseau puant (stinking bird, Journals of Alexander, Henry and David Thompson, edited by Elliott Coues, 1897, 1, p. 147); strontjager (dung-hunter, J. D. Pasteur, translation of William Bartram's, Travels, 1794, p. 385).

Migratory Kite (**Milvus migrans**)—Jean Delacour informs me that this species is called chawk in Africa, which is a contraction of chit-hawk, in itself an euphemism for shit-hawk.

Vulturine Eagle (**Aquila verreauxii**)—In California, "The natives call it Stront-Vogel or Aas-Vogel, dung, or carrion bird" (John Latham, General History of Birds, 1, 182, p. 141). The country should be Africa.

Kolbe's Vulture (**Gyps fulvus coprotheres**)—It took some time for ornithologists to agree upon the birds Kolbe described and in the meantime they introduced several variants of his names. He wrote (Description du Cap de Bonne-Esperance, etc., 1741, Vol. 3, pp. 138-139) "The Hollanders call them Stront-vogels or Stront-jagers, this is to say Oiseaux de fiente (shit birds), or those which seek dung." In 1772, F. H. W. Martin (Herr von Buffon's Naturgeschite, Vogel, 1, p. 234)

rendered Kolbe's terms as Mistgeyer (dung vulture), Mistvogel (dung bird), and Oiseaux a fiente. William Smellie (Buffon's Natural History of Birds, 1793, 1, p. 135) added "dung birds." Le Vaillant (Histoire Naturelle des Oiseaux d'Afrique, 1805-1808) called the bird Vautour chasse-fiente and J. A. Gurney (Raptorial Birds of the Norfolk and Norwich Museum, 1864, p. 62) adopted the specific term as a "common name," i.e., Chassefiente (shit-chaser).

Lesser Razor-Billed Curassow (**Mitu tomentosa**)—Mutum do cu vermelho (Port., red-assed curassow), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Crested Curassow (**Crax nigra**)—Mutum do cu branco (Port., white-assed curassow), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Purple Gallinule (**Ionornis martinica**)—Bumpy-butt, Florence South Carolina (H. L. Harllee); target-arse bird, Colleton County, South Carolina (Eugene E. Murphey). See the subjoined verse reproduced by kind permission from his book: "Wings at Dusk," 1939, p. 13.

THE PURPLE GALLINULE

Ionornis Martinica
Living in rice fields
Is a creature of beauty
Graceful and gracile.
His breast is a violet
Shading to azure
His back a strange mixture
Of bright green and olive
Golden in sunlight.
But his under-tail-coverts
Are worthy of mention.
The outer rectrices are black,
And inside them, a snowy white crissum
And placed in its center
A sooty black vent.
I asked of Old Mingo
My ebony paddler
"What do you call them?"
"Pond-fowl," he answered.
"But how do you tell them
From all other pond-fowl?"
"I cannot say rightly,"
Says Mingo the paddler,
"But whenever I see one
Flushing befoh me
Histing his flag, like a buck in de pine-wood—
I t'ink say, Mingo,
Dere goes a wonderful
Target-arse bird."
This is not fictitious
It's told, as I heard it,
Verbatim, from Mingo.

American Coot (**Fulica americana**)—Calomel bird, by a Vicksburg man, because he thought that eating mudhen had completely purged him (Burr H. Polk, Forest and Stream, 19 (8), 1882, p. 146).

Mexican Jacana (**Jacana spinosa gymnostoma**)—Because of its walking about on floating water plants, this bird in some parts of Mexico, is called pajaro Jesucristo (Jesus Christ bird).

Killdeer (**Oxyechus vociferus**)—Cracker-ass, shit-ass, northwestern Nevada and northeastern California (Richard M. Tullar); teeter-ass snipe, Pequannock, New Jersey (Marie Domitz).

European Snipe (**Capella gallinago**)—Myriskitur (moor snot); in another place he translates skitur as "shit" (B. Hantzsch, Vogelwelt Islands, 1905, p. 232); myrispita, myriskitr ("which are meaningless" (!), he says; what innocence. (Henry H. Slater, Manual of the Birds of Iceland, 1901, p. 94). They signify, respectively, moor-spit and moor-shit.

European Jack Snipe (**Lymnocryptes minimus**)—Buffon (Hist. Nat. Ois., 8, 1783, p. 304) cites an obscene name used by the peasants of France, namely Foucault); filzlaus (Ger., crab-louse; A. E. Brehm, Illustrirtes Thiesleben, 4, 1867, p. 617).

Upland Plover (**Bartramia longicauda**)—The well-know creole name for this bird in Louisiana—**papabotte**—is sometimes said to be in imitation of a note made by the bird when flushed. Even so the syllables chosen to indicate that sound seem to have a double meaning. Literally they signify "papa's boot," but we need only recall the phrases "put boots to," meaning to copulate and "put boots on," to give sexual power, to be satisfied that this name has an erotic significance. In confirmation, we read: "In season x x x feeding largely upon Spanish-flies and insects of the beetle order, which excites fat, and whose peculiar influences impregnate their flesh and produce a most delicate **morceau** for the epicure." (Chicago Field, 15 (18), June 1, 1881, p. 281.)

European Common Sandpiper (**Actitis hypoleucos**)—Skittery deacon (from defecating when flushed), Scotland (Swainson, 1886, p. 196).

Spotted Sandpiper (**Actitis macularia**)—All of the names here cited have references to the constant tail-bobbing in which this species indulges. Bob-ass, Springfield, Massachusetts (E. A. Chapin); dab-ass, Great Smoky Mountains, Tennessee (E. V. Komarek); dodge-ass, Portsmouth Island, North Carolina (C. Cottam); jerk-ass, Wallops Island, Virginia (W.L.M.); little pant-ass (pant here doubtless has the meaning of throb or heave), coastal North Carolina (C. Cottam); na-na-mik-chis (bird that rocks its backside), Malecite Indians, New Brunswick (E. Tappan Adney). David Thoreau gave what must be the same word, as nanamekchus, for Maine Indians (Maine Woods, 1883, p. 169) whether in knowledge of its meaning is not apparent; pant-ass, Hatteras Island, North Carolina (C. Cottam); perk-ass, Wallops Island, Virginia (W.L.M.); putilla (little whore, from its tail-twitching); Juan Gundlach (Porto Rican Ornithology, 1878, p. 161) recorded this term as used in Puerto Rico and A. Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 41) adds **putilla manchada**; tape-cul (tap-ass), Quebec (Melancon, Charmants Voisins, 1940, p. 272); teeter ass. This name, seldom if ever seen in print is the most familiar designation of the species in the Northeast (known distribution from Nova Scotia and Long Island west to Illinois and Minnesota; also in Manitoba); teeter-butt, Iowa (Ed. S. Currier); tilt-ass, Maryland (F. C. Kirkwood, Birds of—, 1895, p. 381); wink-ass, Matinicus Island, Maine (W.L.M.); work-ass, Cheriton, Virginia (J. R. Andrews).

Solitary Sandpiper (**Tringa solitaria**)—Pant-ass, Hatteras Island, North Carolina (C. Cottom); putilla (Sp. little whore; see spotted sandpiper). Espinosa (Zool. Garten, 1871, p. 350) and later authors have recorded this usage for Puerto Rico; teeter-ass, Illinois (Chas. K. Worthen). This correspondent who sent a ms. list of local names to Robert Ridgway gave this term for the spotted and solitary sandpipers and remarked, "You may leave this name out but it is the only common name these two species are known by in this locality."

Green Sandpiper (**Tringa ocrophus**)—Cul blanc (Fr.), Weissarsch (Ger.), both meaning white ass, C. G. Gmelin (Syst. Naturgeschichte 2 (2), 1807, p. 31).

Purple Sandpiper **Arquatella maritima**)—Fiaerskut, fjaerskidt (one that dirties the beach; Linnaeus, Systema Naturae, 19, 1758, 1, p. 123).

Pectoral Sandpiper (**Pisobia melanotos**)—Putilla (Sp., little whore) putilla pinta (little spotted whore). A. Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 44).

White-Rumped Sandpiper (**Pisobia fuscicollis**)—Putilla (Sp., little whore). A Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 44).

Least Sandpiper **Pisobia minutilla**)—Putilla (Sp., little whore), putilla menuda, A Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 44).

Stilt Sandpiper (**Micropolama himantopus**)—Putilla (Sp., little whore). A Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 44).

Semipalmated Sandpiper (**Ereunetes pusillus**)—Putilla (Sp., little whore), putillita diminuta (Sp., littlest whore), A. Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico, 1916, p. 43).

SKUAS AND JAEGERS

All of these birds have about the same reputation among lay observers and have received very similar names. As an introduction to the reasons underlying those names we may quote from A. C. Bent:

"The predatory feeding habits of the jaegers are familiar to everyone who has studied the habits of our sea birds x x x. They are the notorious pirates and freebooters x x x the highwaymen that persecute their neighbors on the fishing grounds and make them 'stand

and deliver.' It is no uncommon sight on the New England coast to see one or two of these dusky robbers darting through a flock of hovering terns or small gulls, or giving chase to the lucky one that has caught a fish, following every twist and turn in its hurrying flight as it tries to dodge or escape, close at its heels as if attached by an invisible string. At last, in desperation, the harassed tern drops its fish and the relentless pursuer seizes it before it strikes the water. Occasionally the indignant tern voids its excrement instead, which the jaeger immediately seizes, as if it were a dainty morsel." (Life Histories of North American gulls and terns, U. S. Nat. Mus. Bul. 113, 1921, pp. 10-11.)

It is the latter action that has attracted most attention and has given rise to numerous popular names of these birds. As long ago as 1675, Friderich Martens wrote: "The struntjager [dung hunter] has its name because it pursues the gull called Kutgegehf [Kittiwake] and persecutes it until it drops its dung which this bird seizes before it reaches the water." (Spitzbergische x x x Reise x x x im Jahr 1671, p. 63).

Bishop Pontoppidan in a book that was first published before 1753, may be quoted from a translation about the bird called Jo-Fugl, Jo-tyv, or Jo-thief because he robs other birds x x x he only strives, in his pursuit after them to get their prey x x x or if he can't get that, he'll take the other bird's dung, from whence the Dutch call him strunt-jager" (The Natural History of Norway, 1755, p. 81).

Names applied to jaegers in general that are not mentioned in the following lists by species may be cited here: Mange-merdre (Fr., shit-eater, Newfoundland, V. C. Wynne-Edwards); rump-poke (Adlard Welby, A Visit to North America, 1821, p. 8); scout bird (i.e. shit bird (J. W. Winson, Rod and Gun in Canada, 25, 1924, p. 822); shit-hawk, Magdalen Islands (George W. Field); shiti, Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia (Israel J. Pothier); turd-eater, Matinicus Island, Maine (W.L.M.).

Even the technical terms scientists have bestowed upon the jaegers have been mere echoes of the popular appellations, as Coprophagos (dung-eater), Coprotheres (dung beast, i.e. bird), and Stercorarius (pertaining to dung).

Arctic Skua **(Catharacta skua skua)**—Dirty Allan, dirty aulin, dirt bird, eastern Scotland (Swann, 1913, pp. 4, 74); bruine strontjager (Dutch, brown dung hunter; Albarda, Aves Neerlandicae, 1897, p. 87); dung bird, dung-eater (Christy Miller, Birds of Essex (England), 1890, p. 268); gestreifte struntjager (Ger., striped dung hunter; P. Hoslin, Linn. Nat. Syst., 1781, I, p. 325); scoutiallin, scouty allan, scooty aulin, Orkney and Shetland Islands (Swann, 1913, pp. 4, 208); skait bird, old Scotch (Swann, 1913, p. 216); turd bird, Essex, England (Miller, loc. cit.); wease or weese allen or aulin, Orkneys (see note under parasitic jaeger, Swann, 1913, pp. 4, 246).

Pomarine Jaeger **(Stercorarius pomarinus)**—Cagado ("cagar" means to shit), Portugal (Themido, Aves de—, 1933-35, p. 224); cagalo ("cagar" means to shit), Spain (H. Saunders, Ibis, 3, 187, p. 401); dirty black allan, Scotland (E. T. Booth, Birds of the British Islands, 1881-87); dung bird, Newfoundland (H. Reeks, Birds of—, 1879, p. 407); groszer struntjager (great dung hunter; C. G. Frederich, Naturgeschite der Deutschen Vogel, 1905, p. 785); skrait, skreit (Frisian, E. D. Van Oort, Ornithologia Neerlandicae, 3, 1928, p. 77); storre struntjaeger (Dan., big dung hunter; R. Muller Vildtet Sydgronland, 1906, p. 78); struntmove (Ger. dung gull; G. V. Frauenfeld, Der Vogelschutz, 1871, p. 1191).

Parasitic Jaeger **(Stercorarius parasiticus)**—Cagado ("cagar" means to shit), cagalo (probably same as the former), Portugal (Themido, Aves de—, 1933-35, p. 224); chasse-merde (Fr., shit-chaser; attributed to Salerne, by Buffon (Hist. Nat. Oiseaux, 1771-1786, 9 p. 293); dirtenallen (Scotland, Newman, Dictionary of Birds, 1813, p. 148); dirty allen, Alexander Fisher, Voyage Discovery, 1821, p. 18); dung bird, England (Bewick, British Birds, 2, 1804, p. 239); New foundland (H. Reeks, Canad. Nat. 5, 1870, p. 407); dung fowl (David Crantz, The History of Greenland (transl.), 1820, 1, p. 81); dung-hunter (Newman, Dictionary of Birds, 1813, p. 148); used by U. S. fishermen (E. Coues, Key to N. A. Birds, 6th ed., 1903, 2, p. 978); jiddy-hawk, not explained but looks like an euphemism for shitty-hawk (D. B. Macmillan, White North, 1918, p. 404); kothmewe (dung gull; J. R. Forster, Hearne Reise, 1797, p. 160); lytse skraits, lytse skreits (Frisian, E. D. Van Oort, Orn. Neerlandica, 3, 1928, p. 80); maase-ful (foul gull), maase-skid (dirty gull), Martini-Otto, Buffon's Vogel, 1772-1809, 32, p. 38); mangeur de fiente (Fr. dung eater), Anticosti (Joseph Schmitt, Monographie de l'Ile—, 1904, p. 291); puke-hawk, Grays Harbor, Washington (Leo K. Couch); schieszfalke (Ger., shit-hawk; Martini-Otto, Buffon's Vogel, 1772-1809, 32, p. 37); scoute-allen (P. R. Selby, Illus. Brit. Orn. 1833, 2, p. 520); scoutinallen (Newman, Dictionary of Birds, 1813, p. 148); scoutiallin, Orkney and Shetland (Robert Dunn, Orn. Guide Islands, 1837, p. 113); scouty-allen, scouty-aulin, same islands (Swann, 1913, p. 208); skait bird, old Scotch (Swann, 1913, p. 216); skaihti, Lapland (L. Munsterhjelm, Fagel Lappmark, 1911, p. 75); skaite (O. Fabricius, Fauna Groenland, 1780, p. 103); skaitje, Lapland (Martini-Otto, Buffon's Vogel, 1772-1809, 32, p. 38); struntjager (dung hunter). This name, varied in spelling according to the language of the author, is recorded for Holland, Germany, all Scandinavia, and Greenland, the earliest instance apparently being that in Friderick Martens' Spitzbergische Reise, 1675; struntjager-meve (dunghunter gull; Gmelin, Syst. Naturg., 1806, p. 140); struntmeve (dung gull, John Latham, Uebersicht Vogel, 4, 1811, p. 496); wease allan (wease from Anglo-Saxon **was** = moisture; Swann,

1913, p. 246,) seems to be allied to the other terms of excrementary significance applied to the jaegers.

Long-Tailed Jaeger **(Stercorarius longicaudus)**—Cagado (Port. "cagar" means to shit), cagalo (Sp., Dresser Palaearctic Birds, 2, 1903, p. 841); dertenallan (Thomas Forster, Cat., Brit., Birds, 1817, p. 37); dirty allan, dirty aulin (Eastern Scotland); dirt bird (Dundrum Bay); chass merde (Fr., Swainson, 1886, p. 210); dung bird (Smellie, Buffon, 8, 1793, p. 382); England (T. Bewick, History of British Birds, 2, 1804, p. 238); dung-hunter (Swainson, loc. cit.); kleiner struntjager (Ger., smaller dunghunter; C. G. Friderich, Naturgeschichte der Deutschen Vogel, 1905, p. 787); schyt valck (Ger., shit hawk; Jacob T. Klein, Historiae Avium Prodromus, 1750, p. 148); skait bird, old Scotch (Swainson loc. cit); skaiti, Lapland (Dresser, Palaearctic Birds 2, 1903, p. 842); skeiter, skite scouter, Orkney Islands (Swainson, loc. cit.); scoutinallin (Thos. Forster, cat. Brit. Birds, 1817, p. 37); scouty allan, scouty aulin, Orkney Islands (Swainson loc. cit.); struntjager (dunghunter: Swainson; loc. cit., and other authors, who apply this name to all of the jaegers); weese allan (see note under the preceding species; Swainson, loc. cit.).

Gulls **(Larus)**, not further identified.—Old lighthouse shitter, Northwest coast (Stanley P. Young); shitass, northwestern Nevada and northeastern California (Richard M. Tullar); spitting-ass, west coast (because of its defecating in the air, sometimes on ferry-boat passengers, Stanley P. Young).

Great Black-Backed Gull **(Larus marinus)**—Dung-hunter, from its jaeger-like aggressions (Swann, 1913, p. 78).

Kittiwake **(Rissa tridactyla)**—There are distinctly two schools of thought as to the origin of a series of names for this species used in Newfoundland, Labrador, and the eastern part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In that region narrow passages of water between reefs and ledges are called "tickles" by the fishermen (usage noted by George Cartwright in his Labrador Journal in 1771). So this bird frequenting such places is called a "tickler" or "ticklace." But note how the latter term varies so easily into tickle-ass, an appellation that is diversely explained by the birds' habit of flapping its tail rapidly and by its being the recipient of attentions by the jaegers, including, if necessary, "goosing." The forms of these names that have come to my attention are here listed alphabetically for analysis by the reader according to his tastes: Kittiwake, tickler, ticklace, ticklace gull, ticklays, tickleace, tickle-alice, tickle-ass, tickle-ass gull, tickle-else, ticklelouse, tickler.

An anecdote appropriate here that I heard related by Dr. C. Hart Merriam was that on this expedition to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a woman speaking of edibles, told him she "would rather any day have a tickle-

ass than a shag." The possible double meaning was not lost on the doctor who well knew that "shag" (local for cormorant) also means as a verb, to copulate, and from the sound, roughly. At any rate, the contrast between tickling and shagging is amusing to contemplate.

Caspian Tern **(Hydroprogne caspia imperator)**—Big son-of-a-bitch, Lake Michigan fishermen (Wm. I. Lyon).

Razor-billed Auk **(Alca torda)**—Scout (from skite), Farn Islands, Scotland (Swainson, 1886, p. 217).

Common Murre **(Uria aalge)**—Kiddaw, Cornwall; scout, Yorkshire; Forfar, Orkney Islands; skiddaw, skuttock, east Lothian (all from skite, Swainson, 1886, p. 218).

Marbled Murrelet **(Brachyramphus marmoratus)** and other murrelets; kiss-me-ass-, British Columbia (J. A. Munro).

Puffin **(Fratercula arctica)**—Scout (from skite), Farn Isles, Scotland (Swainson, 1886, p. 229).

Dodo **(Didus ineptus)**—The dodo was christened by the people who exterminated it and is an interesting, perhaps unique, example of an extinct bird with an obscene name. L. H. W. Martini (Herr von Buffon's Naturgeschichte der Vogel, 3, 1775, pp. 230-236) discusses the bird, saying among other things: "The Hollanders call it Dod-aars (i.e. arschbusch) in reference to the tail tuft, because like the ostrich, instead of a tail, it shows only a tuft of feathers." Other explanations are given and different spellings are used but the latter agree in employing a syllable denoting arse (ass). The dodo was called also walghvogel (nauseating bird) from the taste of its flesh.

Passerine Parrotlet **(Psittacula passerina)**—Cu tapado. (Port. corked ass), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Hoopoe **(Upupa epops)**—This bird, of a family entirely unrepresented in the Western Hemisphere, seems to be most unfavorably known in the Old World. Aristotle wrote: "The hoopoe generally makes its nest of human ordure" (History of Animals, translated by Richard Cresswell, 1862, p. 246). Later authorities elaborated upon this theme, but perhaps Brehm had a more accurate view when he wrote: "The birds remove no dung from the nest and the female and young become impregnated with its odor." Hence the names: Stinkvogel (stink bird), Kotvogel (dung bird), Dreckkramer (dung merchant), Dreckhenne (dung hen), and Stinkhenne (stink hen). A. E. Brehm, Gefangene Vogel, 1876, 2, p. 316.)

An essay upon related names is here quoted from Hugo Suolahti's: "Die deutschen vogelnamen" (1909, p. 14). "Often the Hessian name appears in the form Schiesshofferich (shitsteader?). Among the Romans the hoopoe, on account of the unsanitary condition of its nest was in bad repute; Pliny called it **avis pastu obscoena** [filthy feeding bird] and in more recent times usage has not changed. The term Kothahn [dung cock] appears in a glossary of the year 1512

(Upupa, Kothan, Kathan), and thereafter as Kadthan in Ryff. Tierb. Alberti (1545), Kothan in Strassburg Vogelb. (1554); Kathaan, Kaathane in Gesner (1555); today Gewothan (Quothan in middle high German, Quot, Kot) or Dreckvogel [dirt bird] in the Pfalz, Chothan [dung cock] in Switzerland; Kothan, Kothhuehnel [dung hen], Stinkhahn (stinkcock), Schissdreckvogel [dirt shit bird] in Alsace, Misthahn [dung cock] in Brandenburg, Drockstochar (dirt sticker) in Tyrol. With these name groups the term Hervogel, which according to Heyne is formed from the older Hor-fogel [= kotvogel]; from the German is also loaned the Danish haerfugl [haerpop] and the Swedish harfagel."

Names of like import from other languages are: dung bird (Walter Charleton, Exercitationes, 1677, p. 98); stinker (Swainson, 1886, p. 106); mistvogel (Ger., dung bird, Swainson loc. cit.); coq puant (Fr. stinking cock), coqmerdeux (Fr., shit cock); put-put (Fr.), apparently our "pu," from its stinkingness (Buffon, Hist. Nat. Ois. 6, 1783, pp. 496 and 494, respectively).

Nighthawk **(Chordeiles minor)**—There is no excuse save politeness for calling the sound accompanying the dive of the the nighthawk a "boom." It does not sound in the least like "boom," but is perfectly imitated by a voluminous and lusty, dry, fart playing across a throbbing margin of anal membrane. That the more realistically inclined of our fellow citizens agree is evident from the following names:

Fatzvogel (fart-bird), Pennsylvania German (Thomas R. Brendle); fontin' Jacob (i.e. farting Jacob), John's Island, Charleston County, South Carolina (E. B. Chamberlain); luftfatzer (air-farter), Pennsylvania German (Thomas R. Brendle); night-farter, Maine (A. Sidney Hyde); poopbird, South Carolina (H. L. Harlee).

In addition, E. Tappan Adney, student of the Milicete Indians of New Brunswick, states that their name for the nighthawk incorporates part of the terms **pik-tu** or **pik-te-wun,** meaning "wind from behind."

Woodpecker.—The inversion "peckerwood," probably used for the pleasure it affords in carrying the forbidden word, "pecker," in rather general use in the Southeast (Virginia to Georgia and Kentucky and Missouri to Texas), is known also from Connecticut, Nevada, Oregon, and California. That the conjunction of ideas mentioned is popular was indicated by a schoolboy ditty learned in Grand County, Indiana, in my youth:

"The woodpecker pecked on the schoolhouse (shithouse) door

And pecked and pecked till his pecker was sore."

A corroborative incident was brought to my attention at Washington, D. C. The stenographer of Marcus Benjamin, then editor U. S. National Museum, was called to the telephone just as he uttered the word "woodcock" in his dictation. When she came back, she asked, "Now what was it about a woodpecker?"

Pileated Woodpecker **(Ceophloeus pileatus)**—Womacock; this term is reported by M. M. Mathews as in use in Clarke County, Alabama, about 1900; it was not spoken in the presence of women, a taboo probably due to its resemblance to certain well-known words, with which, however, it seems to have no connection. It may be in part of Indian origin but correspondence with authorities has failed to reveal its derivation.

Tapaculo **(Scelorchilus albicollis)**—Charles Darwin wrote of this bird of Chili and western Argentina: "This species is called by the Chilenos, 'Tapacola,' or 'cover your posteriors.' The name is well applied, as the tapacola generally carries its short tail more than erect, that is inclined backward [he should have said forward] and toward the head." (Voyage of the Beagle, Zoology, 3, 1838-41, p. 72). The word generally written "tapaculo," may be translated more bluntly than by Darwin as "hide your ass," and is I am told by E. G. Holt and A. Wetmore, applied to the smaller species of Pteroptochidae in general.

Royal Flycatcher **(Onychorhynchus coronatus)**—Buffon (Hist. Nat. Oiseaux, 41, p. 547), notes that this species is known by the name of putilla (little whore) in South America. The reason may be the unusual ornateness of the birds' plumage.

Eastern Wood Pewee **(Myiochanes virens)**—Pisser (O. W. Knight, Birds of Maine, 1908, p. 315). In seeking light on this unexplained name I appealed to Arthur H. Norton. He wrote in reply: "I have only a very indistinct memory if it is really a memory that Knight was once questioned on this 'name' in my presence, and stated that it was a schoolboy's name around Bangor, and had reference to some note of the bird."

Tody-Tyrant **(Euscarthmus nidipendulus)**—Caga-sebo (Port., wax shitter), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Banded Flycatcher **(Myiobius fasciatus)**—Same annotation as for the preceding.

Greenish Tyrannulet **(Xanthomyias virescens)** — Cagasebinho (Port., little wax-shitter), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Crested Lark **(Galerida cristata)**—Kotlerche (Ger., dung lark; A. E. Brehm, Gefangene Vogel, 1, 1872, p. 571); same name and Kottmunch (dung—) Austria, Suolahti, 1909, p. 99).

Swallow (not further identified)—Flying bastard (i.e. flying expert), lower Columbia River, Oregon (Stanley P. Young).

Bank Swallow **(Riparia riparia)** — Kotschwalbe (dung swallow; A. E. Brehm, op. cit., 2, 1876, p. 624).

Northern Blue Jay **(Cyanocitta cristata cristata)**—O. W. Knight renders one of its calls as "Piss-light, piss-light" (Birds of Maine, 1908, p. 327).

Common Crow (**Corvus brachyrhynchos**)—"The Absaroka call this bird **peritshi**—that which defiles itself." (W. J. Hoffman, Auk. 2, 1885, p. 9.)

Marsh Tit—(**Parus palustris**)—Kotmeise (dung titmouse; A. E. Brehm, Gefangene Vogel, 2, 1876, p. 259); other forms of the same name are Kotmaisz (Hans Sachs), Kaatmeiszle (Gesner); Chotmase Switzerland), and probably Keatnerle (Karinthia) (Suolahti, 1909, p. 157).

Long-tailed Tit (**Aegithalus caudatus roseus**) — Bum towel, Devon, England (Swainson, 1886, p. 32; the nest is a fluff of feathers, possibly very gratifying in the role suggested).

Amorous Titmouse (**Parus erastes**)—This may be an apocryphal species but the accounts of it are of interest. Buffon attributes the scientific name given and the vernacular "l'amoreux de la Chine" to Commerson. His own name for it is "mesange amoreuse" and he writes of it, "The surname given to this species indicates the dominant quality in its temperament: in effect the male and female never cease to caress; at least when caged that is their sole occupation; they continue, it is said, to the point of exhaustion, and in this way not only allay the ennui of captivity, but shorten it; they do not live long, exemplifying the general rule that intensity diminishes the duration of existence" (Hist. Nat. Ois, 6, 1783, p. 301).

John Latham (a General Synopsis of Birds, 2 (2), 1783, p. 547) presents a Bowdlerized version of the foregoing. James Jennings (Ornithologia, 1828, p. 220) calls the bird **Parus amatorious.** In German and Dutch versions of Buffon's work it is referred to by the following weaker terms, both translatable as infatuated titmouse: verliebte meise (Bernhard C. Otto, vol. 17, 1790, p. 156) and verliefde mees (C. Van Engelen, vol. 24, 1805, p. 275).

Nuthatches (**Sitta**)—From New Brunswick (Stanley G. Jewett), Connecticut (Chipman, Notes on Bartlett, 1870, p. 12), and Manitoba (three correspondents), I have a term variously spelled arce-up, arse-up, and ass-up, the application of which to these upside-down birds is obvious.

Dipper (**Cinclus mexicanus unicolor**)—Teeter-ass, northern California; teeter-ass bird, eastern Oregon (C. V. Bracher).

Wren (**Troglodytidae**)—Wrens, not further identified are called shit-birds along the lower Columbia River because they hunt over dung in search of insects (S. P. Young).

European Redstart (**Phoenicurus phoenicurus**)—Dinboeth (Welsh, hot-rump), northern Wales (Swann, 1913, p. 73). The rump is reddish-chestnut as is also the tail, which is almost constantly in motion.

Wheatear (**Oenanthe oenanthe**)—There seems to be no doubt that this innocent appearing name is descended from the Anglo-Saxon **hvit**

(white) + **ears** (tail or rump, in common parlance, ass). J. R. Malloch informs me that in his experience whitears was used in the Clyde area of Scotland. Swainson (1886, p. 9) gives whiteass for Cornwall; and the French term cul-blanc of the same meaning is corroborative. Aslyng (**aers** = rump + **ling**, a diminutive) was used by Turner, 1544. (Turner on Birds, 1903 reprint, p. xviii).

European Blackbird (**Turdus merula**)—Dreckamsel (shit-thrush because it lines its nest with paper; C. G. Friderich, Naturgeschichte der Deutschen Vogel, 1905).

Mistle Thrush (**Turdus viscivorus**)—Both the vernacular and technical names of this bird indicate its feeding upon mistletoe. The ancients believed that this plant could not be propagated but by berries that had passed through the alimentary canal of this bird. (Pennant, British Zoology, 1812). On the other hand as bird lime used to ensnare this thrush among other birds was made from mistletoe, one of the ancient Latin writers coined the epigram: "Turdus sibi cacat malum" (freely "The thrush shits its own doom.").

Fieldfare (**Turdus pilaris**)—Skittery feltie (shitty fieldfare), Clyde district, Scotland (J. R. Malloch).

Spotted Flycatcher (**Muscicapa grisola**)—Kotfink (dung finch; A. E. Brehm, Gefangene Vogel, 2, 1876, p. 375).

White Wagtail (**Motacilla alba**)—"Belon, the Frenchman [whose main work was published in 1555] writes lavandiere (laundress), because it is seen near water among the washerwomen and like them wriggles the rump vigorously" (Ulysses Aldrovandus, Ornithologiae hoc est, etc., 1610, 2, p. 323).

Yellow Wagtail (**Moticilla flava**)—Kuh-scheisse (cow shit) German peasants (A. D. Brisson, Orn. Meth. 3, 1760, p. 471); little horse shit, Alsace (Suolahti, 1909, p. 93).

Water Pipit (**Anthus spinoletta**)—Drecklerche, kotlerche (both meaning shit-lark; C. G. Friderich, Naturgeschichte der Deutschen Vogel, 1905, p. 164).

Northern Water-Thrush (**Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis**) —Teeter-ass, Duluth, Minnesota (E. J. Wilkinson).

Dufresne's Masked Yellow-Throat (**Geothlypis aequinoctialis velata**)—Caga-sebo (Port., wax-shitter), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

House Sparrow (**Passer domesticus**)—Faul-sperling (Ger., foul sparrow, Brehm, Gefangene Vogel, 1872-76, 1 p. 383); kotivarpunen (Finnish, dung sparrow; Dresser, Hist. Birds Europe, 1871-81, 3, p. 87); mistfink (Ger., dung-finch; Arnold, Vogel Europas, 1897, p. 201).

The so-called English sparrow is most persistent of any bird in my acquaintance in indulging in sexual intercourse. Once while delivering papers I stopped along enough to count 24 renewals of the act and when I went on the female was still crouching with fluttering

wings asking for more. Linnaeus (Systema Naturae, ed. 10, 1758, 1, p. 183) wrote of it "salacissimum qui vigesies saepe coit" (most lustful, copulates vigorously and often), and Lescarbot (Histoire de la nouvelle France, 1612) doubtless with this bird in mind refers to the "lascif Passereau" (lascivious sparrow).

Yellow-Headed Blackbird **(Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus)**—A rendering of the song heard in the West is: "One, two, three. Watch me shit. Hurree!"

Chopi Grackle **(Gnorimopsar chopi)** — Vira-bosta (Port., turd-turner), Brazil (E. G. Holt).

Shiny Cowbird **(Molothrus bonariensis)**—Same annotation as the preceding.

Cowbirds, in general: Cagon (Sp., one that lives among dung), northern Argentina (A. Wetmore).

Scarlet Tanager **(Piranga erythromelas)**—We read in manuals that this bird calls "chip-churr," but Dr. A. K. Fisher's rendering, "sheep-turd" should not be forgotten.

European Yellow-Hammer **(Emberiza citrinella)**—Kotvogel (dung-bird), Alsace (Suolahti, 1909, p. 106); skite (shit), Banffshire, Scotland (Thomas Edward, The Birds of—, in Samuel Smiles, Life of a Scotch Naturalist, 1877, p. 348), also Aberdeen, Scotland (Swainson, 1886, p. 70); yellow yite (yite = shite or shit), Clyde area, Scotland, J. R. Malloch).

Corn Bunting **(Emberiza calandra)**—Skitter brottie, Orkney Islands (skite = shit; brathies = the cross ropes of the roof of a stack, on which the birds often perch (Swainson, 1886, p. 69).

Brambling **(Fringilla montifringilla)**—Kothfink (dung-finch, Weidmann, Vogelfanger u. Vogeljager, 1, 1823, p. 380).

Chaffinch **(Fringilla coelebs)**—Dreckfink, kotfink, mistfink (all meaning dung-finch) and dreckjockel (jockel = Jacob), because the bird shares the habit of the house sparrow of feeding from droppings in the streets (Suolahti, 1909, p. 111); horse-dung finch, England (H. G. Adams, Nests and Eggs of Familiar Birds, 1890, p. 129).

Red Crossbill **(Loxia curvirostra)** — Pikku-kapylintu (Finnish, little dung-bird; Ivar Hortling, Orn. Handbook, 1929, p. 64).

Common Redpoll **(Acanthis linaria)**—Petit pisson (Fr., little pisser; N. E. Dionne, Parler populaire des Canadiens Francais, 1909, p. 505). This author remarks that the term sizerin, which forms part of the name of several small finches in France, means "enfant qui urine dans ses pantalons."

San Diego Towhee **(Pipilo maculatus megalonyx)**—Speckle-ass jew, King's River Canyon, California (H. G. Swarth).

As an appendix to the bird names, I present the following essay on "God Birds," the merits of which a few magazine editors were unable to appreciate.

GOD BIRDS

"The robin redbreast and the wren
Are God Almighty's cock and hen."

Thus runs an old jingle that illustrates the tendency to connect God and birds. In fact, there are even bird gods to which volumes have been devoted. The present writing, however, of much humbler aim, deals only with certain American birds, in the names of which the word god, occurs. The reasons are different in each case but of interest in all.

We have, for instance, two kinds of shore birds known as godwits —a term apparently indicating superlative intelligence. It is not well, however, to guess at any derivation—a rule no better emphasized than in this instance, for the name is said to trace back to the Anglo-Saxon elements; **god**, meaning good, and **wihta**, an animal, creature, or wight. So the appellation means a bird good to eat and has no connection with God. Dr. C. Hart Merriam, referring to the spelling of the word used in the Reverend J. H. Linsley's Catalogue of Connecticut Birds, published in 1843, says, "The good old preacher in speaking of these birds could not take his Lord's name in vain on so slight a provocation, hence he called them **'goodwits.'**" Apparently no native scribe has waxed eloquent about the gustatory grace of godwits but high authorities in old England can be quoted. Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682) called them "the daintiest dish in England" and Ben Johnson, the poet (1573-1637), referred to

"your eating
Pheasant and godwit here in London, haunting
The globe and Mermaid; wedging in with lords
Still at table"

How much the lords valued these delicacies was recorded by Dr. Thomas Muffet as long ago as 1655, when he wrote, "A fat godwit is so fine and light meat, that noblemen, yea, and merchants, too, by your leave, stick not to buy them at four nobles a dozen." A noble was worth considerably more than the present English pound, so the godwits did come high, say at the equivalent of about two dollars apiece.

Turning to another bird of interest to sportsmen, we find that the ruddy duck, a species of many aliases, has one almost startling in its forthrightness, to wit, goddam, used among the Acadians of Louisiana and adjacent Texas. What can this cuss-word mean as applied to a duck? If we consult folk etymology, we come to believe that in this case at least, that highbrow expression means that one man's guess is as good as another's. One author says, the ruddy is so-called because of its worthlessness. Yet there was a period when duck marketmen, drawing their supply from Back Bay, Virginia, and Currituck Sound, North Carolina, succeeded in popularizing the booby (as it is

there chiefly called) on the New York market and got a dollar apiece for these small ducks.

Another hopeful explainer says the bird is profanely named because its skin is tough and difficult to remove from the body. As ducks are usually plucked rather than skinned, this theory does not seem very helpful. A third guesser accepts both of the foregoing ideas but says the ducks are hard to pick on account of the toughness of their skins.

We have entertained the fancy that the oathy name cited might have arisen from the exclamation many hunters might naturally use when they saw a ruddy going on about its business after being apparently covered by the very center of a shot pattern. Certainly a number of other sobriquets of the ruddy refer to this duck's ability to "take it." Among them are: hardhead, hardtack, leather-breeches, shotpouch, steelhead, and tough-head.

The explanation that satisfies, however, is that proposed by Stanley C. Arthur, eminent student of Louisiana birds, and of their early historian, Audubon. He says: "In 1428 when Joan of Arc raised her white banner sprinkled with golden fleurs de lys against the English, the word **godons (God damus)** was used by the maid and her French soldiers to denote the English soldiers—this because the rough, fighting, red-uniformed English were continually using the expression. Therefore, in the early days anything that wore a red coat was a 'God damn' to the French and, when the early French settlers found a little duck in Louisiana wearing a red coat, it was baptised by the profane name it is best known by today."

If one not specially informed were asked to guess which is the most godified of our birds, he would doubtless fail, for it is a habitant of heavy woodland and now so rare or local that relatively few persons have ever seen it. It is none other than the pileated woodpecker, a bird of crow size, noisy both in voice and in its hacking on trees. Perhaps it is just as well to let this bird's roll of godly titles burst upon the reader at once and in full. It is as follows: Do Lord (South Carolina), good God, good God bird, good God woodpecker, great God (North Carolina), great God woodpecker, log God (Georgia, Louisiana), Lord God, Lord God woodpecker, Lord guard (Georgia), Oh! my God (Mississippi), wood God (Arkansas, Florida).

The names without indication of locality of use (excepting the appended bookish derivatives, of course) have been recorded for most of the southeastern States (Missouri and Maryland south to Oklahoma, Texas, and Florida) where this big woodpecker is now most frequently noted. Various observers have said that the term Good God is in imitation of the bird's notes. Maybe it is, but to me the logcock repeats "cack, cack," or "puck, puck," with no touch of divinity about the performances.

Lord God would follow naturally from Good God but even so it seems more probably a corruption of the very appropriate vernacular, logcock. Lord guard doubtless is of the same derivation. The matter evidently is one of sounds for other combinations of the basic syllables are used as good guard and log guard. I heard the name Good God applied to the redhead duck in Arkansas, but fear that somewhere along the line there had been confusion with the pileated woodpecker in the cypress swamps of that country.

Some of the deistic names for the logcock have been applied also to its even larger cousin, the ivory-billed woodpecker, but that bird is now so nearly extinct that no names for it can properly be reported as vernacular. One of them, gollybird, is an additional semideified term. It is of interest that the pileated, with several names including the word "god," is known in Nova Scotia as the "devil's woodpecker."

One other god-bird turns the current of our essay toward the bird gods in that its name carries an element of superstition. It is a Grenadan relative of our house wren, and according to John G. Wells, "though all other birds are shot, robbed, or stoned, the 'Oiseau Bon-Dieu' is never molested." Fred A. Ober adds, "the blacks will eat nearly every bird, but this one, they say, will 'make you dead,' for it is God's-bird." This West Indian bird has profited from its godly ascription but those of the United States are in no better case from the association. In other words it hasn't done them a cussed bit of good.

Footnote.—Certain West Indian hummingbirds also are called God-birds and the snowy cotinga of Central America is known in the cage-bird trade as the Holy Ghost bird.

MAMMALS

To save space, the name of Stanley P. Young, who furnished most of the names, is abbreviated. A number of these terms appear to be the christening of individual trappers rather than vernaculars of wider currency.

Black Bear **(Ursus)**—Piss-ant eater, Rocky Mountain region (S.P.Y.).

Raccoon **(Procyon)**—Masturbator, Northwest; animals chained in camp as semi-pets have been known to masturbate (S.P.Y.).

Note of interest. The raccoon's "pizzle is very commonly us'd as a tobacco-stopper" (Edward Kimber, Itinerant Observations in America (1745-6), 1878 reprint, p. 11, Georgia Hist. Soc. Coll. 4). He meant the baculum or penis-bone.

Mink **(Mustela vison)**—Chief fucker, lower Columbia River (S.P.Y.); cut-throat son-of-a-bitch, Northwest (from feeding on cut-throat trout, S.P.Y.); foutereau (i.e. fucker) of the French-Canadians (John

Richardson, Arctic Searching Expedition, 1, 1851, p. 109).

These names, indicating copulatory powers, correlate with the widespread simile, "fucks like a mink." This is a true folk saying in the United States, widespread and of considerable antiquity. It is not, as has been suggested, a perversion of "fucks like a minx." In fact "minx" is a form of word "mink" and the latter seems to have moved from the old world to the new, being little used there now while it is of the widest currency in northern America.

The wonder is that anyone ever had opportunity to observe in the wild the copulation of so secretive an animal. To learn what basis for this saying may have been revealed by observations on minks in captivity, I appealed to Charles F. Bassett, in charge of the Experimental Fur Farm of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Saratoga Springs, New York. He kindly gave me a full account of the performance from which I quote as follows:

"Mating in the mink differs from that of most other mammals, in several respects. In the first place, it consists of rape pure and simple in most cases. Secondly—copulation when allowed to proceed normally is of long duration, relatively speaking. We have clocked mink matings that lasted three hours—and many of them run from two to two and one-half hours. Thirdly, ovulation in the female occurs only under the stimulation of coitus or of a severe fight preceding attempts at coitus.

"Mating of mink on ranches should not occur much before March 10. The eggs ripen in waves and during the breeding season they grow to a stage when they will ripen and leave the ovary if the female is properly stimulated. That stimulation is caused by the act of copulation or, from a fight caused by attempts to mate. The strength of the stimulus necessary to bring about ovulation varies with receptivity and it also may vary with the individual animal, according to Robert K. Enders. Since the eggs are not ripe or mature much before March 10, matings prior to that date are very often fruitless.

"When March 10 has arrived and we are ready to begin our mink mating, we take the female to the male's pen. The male, if experienced, lies quietly on one side of the pen and just as the female dashes past him he jumps and grabs her by the back of the neck. If he has obtained a good mating hold he first hangs on and lets his superior weight and strength wear down the female who in 90 or 95 per cent of the cases fights very fiercely, squealing like billy Christmas all the time. Quite often her struggles are great enough and continued over a long enough period of time so that the male eventually loses his hold and gives up.

"If the male fails to grab a good hold on the neck at the start he will take after the female with a clucking voice, using his hips to crowd her into a corner (a bite on the hips is less serious than one on

the head or neck), all the time watching for a chance to grab her neck, and obtain a mating hold. After they go round and round like a couple of tomcats, and it is not unusual to have from one-third to one-half of your males idle each day because the females placed with them fight so fiercely.

"After the mating hold has been obtained the male just lies on the female till her struggles become less frantic—being careful all the time to throw her head away from his unprotected feet. The front feet are astride the female just back of her front feet while the rear part of the body hugs the rump and tail head tightly. He then begins a series of short rapid thrusts—so rapid that it is almost impossible to detect them except by the quiver of his rump and tail. During this stage he is attempting to enter the vulva, an operation which is often disgustingly slow. Some males are more proficient than others. All have trouble with different females. When intromission is finally gained the male squeezes and hunches up so that he resembles a question mark—and appears to be intent solely upon getting in that last quarter-inch. With intromission, struggling on the part of the female ceases, and in the words of one of our former employes, 'She gets that contented look.' It is then that Enders and I believe she experiences her orgasm. From this time on they lie quietly together, the male rolling from one side to the other very slowly at irregular intervals so that he is often lying on his side with the female's head, neck and front feet lifted off the floor. If undisturbed they will copulate thus for 30 minutes up to three hours. If disturbed early in the mating they will quite often go through the entire mating procedure again with the female offering little resistance the second time. The mating ends suddenly and with a quick fight with the male scrambling to get out of danger and the female anxious to get back to her nest."

After reading this description one is all the more amazed that anyone should ever have seen enough of the copulatory struggle of wild minks to account for the popular saying.

Skunk—**(Mephitis)**—Ass-hole squeezer, Northwest (the scent of its discharge being likened to a combination of those of urine and dung. (S.P.Y.); biskatze, biskot, pisskatze (all meaning piss cat; Pennsylvania German, Lick and Brendle, 1923, p. 53); bete puante (stinking beast), enfant du diable (devil's child); smell-cat (E. T. Seton, Lives of Game Animals, 1926, 2, 309); stinkard, Indiana (Wm. N. Blane, An Excursion Through the United States and Canada, 1824, p. 241).

Badger **(Taxidea taxus)**—Short-pisser, stinker, Southwest; latter term alluding to the scent a trapped animal sometimes gives off when approached (S.P.Y).

Gray Fox **(Urocyon cinereoargenteus)**—Pisser-legs, from the rufous color suggesting stain on its hind legs (S.P.Y.).

Coyote **(Canis)**—Wolf's bastard brother, Southwest (S.P.Y.).

Wolf **(Canis lupus)**—Trap-shitter; often defecates on a trap, without getting caught (S.P.Y.).

Red Squirrel **(Sciurus hudsonicus loquax)**—Fairy-diddle, Goshen, Virginia (H. H. Bailey). Diddle in popular parlance means to copulate, so I assume there is a related significance in this name.

Arizona Gray Squirrel **(Sciurus arizonensis)**—Shit-belly, from a brown stain on the fur which results from contact with walnut trees (S.P.Y.).

Beaver **(Castor canadensis)**—Old scented balls, in reference to the castors, Northwest (S.P.Y.).

Field Mouse **(Microtus pennsylvanicus)**—Bull mouse, in allusion to its high reproductive rate, Indiana (H. H. T. Jackson).

Mountain Beaver **(Aplodontia rufa)**—Short-assed beaver, Northwest (S.P.Y.).

Cottontail **(Sylvilagus)**—Fucker of the dells, Rocky Mountain region (S.P.Y.).

Bighorn **(Ovis canadensis)**—Cul-blanc (white-ass, French-Canadian, E. T. Seton, Lives of Game Animals, 1927, 3, p. 519).

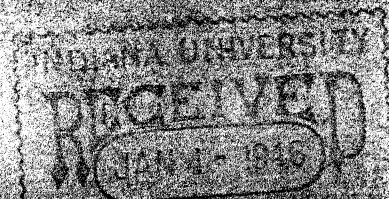
Cape-of-Good-Hope Humpback Whale **(Poescopia lalandi)**—Poeskop (pisspot), local Dutch name (Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1865, p. 207), from which he formed the scientific generic term.

Grampus **(Grampus griseus)**—Probably by perversion of the French "grandpoisson," John Josselyn (An Account of Two Voyages to New England (1675) Coll. Mass. Hist. Soc. 313), 1833, p. 277) gets "grandpisse." On the same page for porpoise he writes "porpisse." These indicate how "obscene" terms may develop from the non-obscene.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS—This is not the place for a catalog of the names of these satellites of man, appellations for which are naughty or not in their significance much by reason of the state of mind of the user. What I wish to draw to attention are the absurdities into which those are drawn who become too finical about perfectly plain words that should be usable in any society without offense. (See especially Vance Randolph's "Verbal Modesty in the Ozarks," Dialect Notes, 6 (1), 1928, pp. 57-64). When people say male cow or gentleman cow instead of bull they are merely being silly but when they go to such an extreme as "top cow" (same locality and author, American Speech 5 (1), 1929, p. 20), they create a new obscenity. In avoiding a minor, they fall into a major, inelegance of language.

War-time conditions prevented the printer from replacing a font of type, including italics, which otherwise would have been used for the scientific names. Diacritical marks also were lacking. I hope for broad-minded readers who will overlook these defects.—W.L.M.

(Privately Printed—1945)

Grant County, Indiana, Speech And Song

By W. L. McAtee

GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA, SPEECH AND SONG

By W. L. McAtee

In 1942 and 1943* the writer distributed privately printed booklets on the dialect of Grant County, and now presents additional material, including folk verse. There is no need to repeat the introductory portions of the previous papers and I wish only to state that the "rules of composition" remain the same.

FOLK SPEECH

PRONUNCIATIONS

air (are), dial.
airth (earth)
babtist (baptist)
babtize (baptize)
blowed (blew), now chiefly slang & dial.
chaw (chew)
clum (climbed), obs. exc. dial.
dreen (drain), dial.
ellum (elm)
ess (let's)
fasset (faucet), dial.
fit (p. p. of fight; Ala., Va., N. C., S. C., PADS 2**), dial. or illit.
fork-ed
forrid (forehead)
garnishee (garnish), pronunciation for the word meaning attachment of wages. Town.
gether (gather), dial.
hit (the pronoun "it"; Southern States, PADS, 2), dial.
holler (hollow), illit.
jiste (joist)
keer (care)
laylock (lilac), dial.***
red (rid)
shaller (shallow)
shet (shut), dial.
Sickel (Seckel, a variety of pear)
snuck (p. p. of sneak; Ala., Va., N. C., S. C., Tenn., La.; PADS, 2)
wush (wish), dial.
yander (yonder), dial.

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*See bibliography, p. 26.

**See bibliography, p. 27, for meaning of these symbols.

***Britten and Holland (Dictionary of English Plant Names, 1878-1886, p. 302) note "laylock" as a common mispronunciation of "lilac" in Great Britain.

GLOSSARY

act up, v. phr., become troublesome; "My knee (or rheumatism) is actin' up agin".

act up, v. phr., misbehave, of people; become fractious, of livestock. PADS, 2.

after bit, adv. phr., after a little while.

aggie, n., agate marble. PADS, 2 (Iowa, Mo.)

ahg, interj., expressive of disgust, the more guttural the sound, the more emphatic the meaning; among other uses it was a warning to a baby not to put some casual pick-up in its mouth.

ahold (or *aholt*), n., "I'd like to git aholt of him". Dial.

all, expletive, as in "all finished," "all ready," "all tuckered out."

ambeer, n., tobacco-stained saliva; NID notes tobacco juice. Chiefly dial.

amen corner, n., part of church where elders and others sat who supported the preacher by "amens" and other interjections.

back seat," "take a, phr., retire discomfited. D.

ball rolling," "start the, phr., begin. D.

bad job, n. phr., something impracticable or impossible, a hopeless task or undertaking; "Guess I'll give it up for a ———."

band box," "out of a, adv. phr., neat, new; "Mary looks like she jest come ———." W.

bark, v., knock off a piece of skin. NID defines: to abrade or rub off, as a barked heel. In our usage a heel probably was never barked although it might be chafed or blistered.

bars," "let down the, phr., lower requirements or ideals. D.

bat out of hell," "go like a, phr., go with great celerity, speedily. W.

beard the lion, phr., meet an opponent on his own ground; of Biblical origin. D.

beg, borrow, buy, or steal, v. phr., get without regard to method.

binder, n., bandage usually of sheets, or parts thereof, wrapped tightly about the middle of a woman after childbirth to aid in restoring the original figure; also a flannel abdominal bandage for the baby.

bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," "A, saying; as Omar said, "Take the cash and let the credit go." D.

bitter, pill, n. phr., something hard to endure. D.

blow brains out, v. phr., "Watch or you'll blow your brains out"; said to one blowing his nose violently.

blow up, v. phr., manifest anger.

bored for the simples," "He ort to be; said of one manifesting stupidity.

bottom of the well," "This tastes like it's from; saying meaning, "It's cold."

bounce," "grand, n. phr., act of ejecting or rejecting positively and finally. "She gave him the ———." D.

breath, n., as a measure of time, "He never drew an honest (or sober) breath."

broad between the eyes, adj. phr., regarded as a sign of intelligence in both horses and men.

brush, n., race, test of speed; "We met on a country road and had a brush."

build a fire, v. phr., the usual expression. W.

burr, n., millstone. (N. C.) PADS, 2.

busy as a bee, simile. W.

butter side up, adv. phr., attended by good luck; in good order. "Here I am ———"; "He landed ———." D.

call, v., recall, remember. "I can't call his name right now" (Va., N. C., S. C., Mo.). PADS, 2.

calliope, n., NID records the popular pronunciation with accent on the "o"; some modified the word still more into "callio."

can't, v., used to mean it's not advisable; "I can't eat onions."

captain, n., a cute boy child; a spirited and attractive young man; an admirable rogue; a crotchety oldster; "Ain't he a ———." (W. Va., Mo.) PADS, 2.

care, v., object. When invited to partake of something agreeable, the acceptance was often phrased, "I don't keer if I do."

cat out of the bag," "let the, saying, disclose a secret. W.

cat's got your tongue, phr., "Why don't you speak up, has the cat got your tongue?"

chaw raw beef, v. phr., said of boys using their teeth to loosen knots tied in their shirt sleeves while in swimming.

cent, n., a small consideration; "I don't give a cent," meant, I don't care, I'm indifferent.

certain sure, adv. phr., "He'll get hisn some day, that's ———." Arch. and dial.

chiselly, adj., facetious variant of chilly.

church. *"In the right church but the wrong pew,"* saying, meaning somewhat (often embarrassingly) out of place.

civil, adj., respectful. "Keep a ——— tongue in your head."

cipher down, v. phr., surpass in a ciphering match; parallel to "spell down." W.

clean up, v. phr., complete an undertaking. Seems not dial. but ordinary colloquial language. (S. C., Ala., Okla.) PADS, 2.

climb around, v. phr., hurry.

coffee grinder, n., a machine in every home in days when coffee was always purchased as whole "beans."

coffee sack, n., burlap bag.

cold feet," "have, v. phr., manifest timidity, cowardice. D.

common as an old shoe, simile, unaffected, easy to approach. Obs. exc. dial.

company, n., visitors. Dropping a fork, spilling the salt, or experiencing nose itching were considered by the superstitious as harbingers of a visit.

cough up, v. phr., to contribute, or repay, money. W.

cram down his throat, v. phr., make one "eat" his words; or accept something repugnant. D.

crawl, n., creep as a baby does.

crooked as a rail, or *snake*, *fence* or *ram's horn*, similes. W.

crossways," "*get up*, phr., out of sorts, equivalent to "get up on the wrong side of the bed."

cute, adj., shy, elusive; "He's too cute for them to catch."

cut out for, adj. phr., qualified; "Bill was never ———— a preacher." W.

dare," "*take a*, phr., decline to enter a struggle or follow a leader.

dead, "*till the last dog's dead*," adv. phr., to the end, or finish; "I'll stay with you ————."

dear life, n. phr., one's best; prayin', runnin', workin' for ————.

die, v., experience a strong emotional reaction;; "I laughed until I thought I'd die," "The way she acted, I thought I'd die," "Can't you see she's jist a dyin' to go?"

dog's life, n. phr., a miserable existence. D.

done, v., in a very critical sense; "Now you've done it."

double, v., some of the nuances of this word in the sense of fold are hardly covered in NID. "Double the fist" when the primary meaning of fist is the "doubled" hand. "Double a string," an operation to which the word "fold" can hardly be applied. For repetition of the act, we said "double it twice" and so on.

down at the heel, adv. phr., in poor circumstances. W.

draw, v., among the many definitions in NID, that conveyed in the expression "draw the feet" when leather shoes are worn without the intervention of stockings does not seem to be represented.

draw up, v. phr., shrink (Ala., Va., N. C., S. C., Tenn.). PADS, 2.

drops, n., liquid medicine, "You can stop the pills but keep on with the drops."

earth and a fence around it, phr., a great deal, everything; in reference to an immoderate ambition or demand, "All he wants is the ————." D.

ever was one," "*if there*, phr. of emphasis; "He's a big liar ————," "She's a beauty ————."

eye-teeth, n., something of great value; "He would give his eye-teeth to get Mary."

fall flat on the face, v. phr., fall unmistakenly, or unmitigatedly.

fall over self, v. phr., hurry, to the extent of being awkward.

fare thee (or *ye*) *well*," "*to a*, adv. phr., meant to the limit; shews usage of two unusual words "thee" and "ye."

fault, n., used as its own antonym; as of a boy who pushed a girl off a high place, "It ain't his fault she didn't break her neck."

feed the face, v. phr., eat.

few and far between, adj. phr., scarce.

fight fire with fire, v. phr., repay in kind; take "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." D.

fine, adv., well; "I feel fine." Dial. & colloq.

fish out, v. phr., draw something forth after repeated probing or dipping.

fiste, n., our version of this much discussed word had a long "i" and a "t" sound just as in the dialect term "twiste." The word had a deprecatory significance and meant usually not only a little dog but an objectionable one.

flare up, v. phr., become angry.

flash in the pan, n. phr., an abortive attempt; anything ineffectual. D.

flatten out, v. phr., knock down with the fist.

fly high, v. phr., live above one's true social level.

for, expletive, "Are you ready for to go?"

fresh, adj., "She'll be ———— in the spring"; while this use of fresh is defined as to calve, it seems literally to mean that the cow will have a fresh supply of milk. N.

front room, n. phr., parlor. N.

gambrel, n., stick inserted under the Achilles tendons to keep the legs of a carcass spread.

game," "*beaten at his own*, saying, surpassed especially in trickery. D.

get around, v. phr., pass; "If I can only git around Jim, I'll be with you."

get going, v. phr., induce emotional stress, bamboozle; "he's got her goin' now," "That'll get 'em goin'"; also to set out or go to work promptly.

go to do, v. phr., intend to do; "I was jist agoin' to do it"; "I ain't agoin' to do it"; "I didn't go to do it" was an apology.

good, n., major usefulness; "I might as well get the good out of it" (i.e. wear it out).

good and proper, adv. phr., thoroughly; "I'll lick him ————."

good for (*good enough for*), adv. phr., "Good for you," meant you deserved the backset. "Good enough for 'em," an expression of satisfaction over someone's getting a richly deserved punishment.

good-rights," "*by*, adv. phr., justifiably; "————I ought to spank you."

good thing, n. phr., personally valued item. Of some of his collecteana threatened elimination, a boy might say: "Aw ma, that's a good thing."

good will. "*It's better to have the good will than the ill will of a dog.*"

goose that lays the golden eggs," "*kill*, the time-honored saying. D.

grabhook, n., hand; "Keep your grabhooks off of me."

gravy," "*water*, n., made simply by heating water with the meat juices and grease in a frying pan; in contrast to milk gravy.

green beans, n., string beans. N.

guess coming," "you've got another, saying, meaning you're mistaken.

gum up, v. phr., botch, mummox. W.

haf-to case, n., phr., a necessity, the unavoidable.

hair is short," "have where the, phr., have at a disadvantage. W.

"Half a loaf is better than none," saying. D.

hang on by teeth and toe nails, phr., do all possible, try every expedient. W.

hand to mouth," "from, phr., precariously, having resources for the present only. D.

head start, n. phr., advantage. D.

heart, n., embryo of a corn kernel (Ohio).

hell, n., misfortune, retribution; "He's catchin' (or he'll catch) his hell on earth."

hell and gone," "to, adv. phr., a long or unknown "ways."

hide nor hair, n. phr., trace; "I can't find ———— of it." W.

high heaven, n. phr., superlative degree; "It stinks to ————." D.

hired hand, n. phr., a hired man or helper. W.

hog, make a hog of one's self, phr., be greedy.

hook, line, and sinker, n. phr., everything; the whole "business." D.

hub, v., to hit with the hub of a vehicle; "He hubbed us into the ditch." W.

ice cream pants, n. phr., white or other light-colored trousers.

indeedy, adv., indeed; "Yes, indeedy."

ingrowing disposition, n. phr., a crabbed, surly one, perhaps with the sense of being introverted and craving to be "let alone."

ingrowing hair, n. phr., one which does not find its pore and coils under the skin, eventually causing a small abscess.

ker, prefix, intensifier, with words meaning to drop or fall heavily. ———— bang, bump, chunk, flummox, plunk, slam, etc.

kerslaunchways, adv., obliquely.

kinfolks, n. relatives; NID has "kinsfolk." N.

knock (a person or animal) *kickin'*, v. phr., stun so that only reflex motions are made.

last straw, n. phr., final provocation to action. D.

lay out, v. phr., knock unconscious.

let live," "the Lord ever, phr., indicating the superlative; "The meanest (or homeliest, etc.) man ————."

licking, n., something disagreeable; "I'd rather take a lickin' than to tell Emmy what Bob done."

listen to, v. phr., pay attention; obey; "Now ———— to me," "You'd better ————."

little old, adj., familiar or affectionate address; "———— feller." (Ala., and other southern States). PADS, 2.

loaded for bear, adj. phr., prepared for any emergency; to have more than enough of whatever might be required. D., W.

lock, stock, and barrel, phr., everything, the whole "business." D.

lollypaloozer, n., something remarkable or distinguished of its kind.

long and the short of it," "the, phr., all there is, a final opinion; often delivered as an ultimatum. "That's ————; take it or leave it." W.

make mincemeat of, v. phr., whip thoroughly.

man and a boy to help me," "I need a, saying; jocular indication of a need for help in a task of no consequence.

manners, n., good manners or politeness; another term of different meaning in the plural form, which is ignored in dictionaries. We often heard, "Where's your manners," the verb being singular, the object plural, in form, though singular in concept. "You ain't got the manners of a pig."

meat, n., something especially suitable for one; or that can be easily handled. "He's my meat."

medicine," "Give him some of his own, saying, meaning return "tit for tat."

misery," "put out of, v. phr., perform a "mercy killing."

mop (or *wipe*) *the floor with*, phr., give a sound thrashing.

motions," "go through the, v. phr., pretend to do something, work ineffectively.

mouth full of mush, phr., "You talk as if your mouth is ————"; that is indistinctly, not understandably. W.

mouth right," "hold, v. phr., in allusion to the puckerings and other distortions often shown by one absorbed in an effort; "You have to hold your mouth right to do that, don't you, George?"

nail spots. In my 1942 paper, p. 44, I recorded the superstition that white flecks in the finger nails indicate the number of fibs told. That this belief is held across the Atlantic also is indicated by the following excerpt from a conversation among the nuns of Poissy, as related by Honoré de Balzac; "Ah! you have lied to our mother; your nails are marked with white." (Droll stories collected from the Abbeys of Touraine. London, ? 1874, I, p. 246).

natural born, adj. phr., incorrigible; "A ———— liar."

not worth a [w]hoop in hell, adj. phr., worthless.

now then, adv. phr., at last, "————, I've got you." W.

old, adj., intensifier in uncomplimentary terms; "old hound," "old skunk."

on needles and pins, prep. phr., anxious. D.

open link, n., a chain link with one side split for use in making quick or temporary connections; most common use to connect a singletree to the doubletree. (open ring, Ala., Md.)

out, expletive, as in "dry ————."

pain in the neck," "gives me a, phr., disgusts, "makes me tired."

paling fence, n. phr., a fence of pales or pickets; N.I.D. has this under "paling", but does not give the combination. N.

paper sack, n. phr., paper bags ordinarily seen in stores. N.
pay the fiddler, phr., pay for one's fun, indiscretions, or worse; such compensation was deemed inevitable. D., W.
pear tomato, n., a small, yellow, somewhat pear-shaped tomato.
piece of one's mind," "Give a, phr., excoriate. (Southern States; in English usage 1572). PADS, 2.
play like, v. phr., pretend.
poor, adj., thin; "He eats so much it makes him poor to carry it"; definition but not this saying is in N.I.D.
popgun, n., an ingenious one easily carried into school and concealed from teachers, consisted of a section of the quill of a large feather, the ammunition being disks punched by the quill from a slice of potato and shoved through with a small stick.
prairie, n., in this generally wooded country, open areas were called prairies; they varied from wet to flooded, which may have been the reason they were treeless.
"Pretty is as pretty does."
pretty looking thing (or *sight*), n. phr., the reverse; "Ain't you a ————," "You're a ————."
pull a hill, phr., succeed in ascending; "Do you think the team can pull Conner's Hill with that load?"
pull ears, phr., in threats to children; "Behave now or I'll pull your ears."
pulling teeth," "like, simile, coming hard, or painfully; "Gettin' money out of him is ————."
put a spoke in his wheel, phr., interfere with; "throw a monkey-wrench in the machinery." W.
quick as greased lightning, simile. W.
quick as you can wink your eye, simile, as in the song:

Can she bake a cherry pie?
Billy boy! Billy boy!
Can she bake a cherry pie?
Charming Billy
Yes she can bake a pie
Quick as you can wink your eye,
But she's a young girl [or thing]
And can not leave her mother.

quinces. Were used to scent bedrooms and bureau drawers.
rag, n., scum forming on boiled milk or mixtures containing milk.
rail fence, n. phr., zigzag fence made of rails split from logs; N.I.D. has under "rail", but not the combination. N.
raise," "take to, v. phr., said of a marriage in which an older person wed a much younger one.
rat terrier, n., the only terrier known to me in youth was so-called; it was used to kill rats routed from their harborage or released from a trap. I have seen the breed referred to in print as the black and tan terrier, but neither that term nor our dialect one is in N.I.D.

roost high, v. phr., live above one's true social level.
rub his nose in it, advice in house-breaking an animal; also used figuratively of a person.
salt, v., a brisk fall of snow; "It's jest a saltin' down."
say, v., of inanimate objects; "What does the thermometer say?"
scrooch or *scrooch down*, v. or v. phr., crouch. Dial. N. (Va., N. C., S. C.)
shank's horses," "ride, v. phr., walk. W.
shero, n., female hero, facetious.
shet (shut), v., "shet yer mouth"; "get shet of"; i.e. get rid of. Dial.
shock, n., a group of grain sheaves, or stalks of corn. Dial. N.
shoot an anvil, v. phr., use an anvil in Fourth of July celebration to put pressure on a charge of powder so that it would make a louder report upon exploding.
shorn lamb, n. phr., in the Biblical sense; in ordinary senses, we said "sheared sheep." D.
silver bullet, or *hook*, n. phr., money spent for game to conceal one's failure as a sportsman.
skirmish around, v. phr., hunt for; "Let me ———— a while and see if I can find it."
sleeping dogs lie," "Let, phr., a negro version is: "Never trouble trouble till trouble troubles you." D.
sleeve holder, n., sleeve garter to hold the fold in a too long sleeve; once an object of commerce.
sneezing and snizzling, v. phr., latter term a corruption of snivelling (?) or more likely a synonym of sneezing.
snake in the grass, n. phr., a treacherous or disloyal person. D., W.
snug as a bug in a rug, simile. W.
so, adv., positively; "They do so lay eggs."
spell down, v. phr., defeat in a spelling match. dial. U. S.
spoil, v., reduce appetite or enjoyment of food; said of something eaten between meals. "Better not, it will spoil your supper" (or dinner).
square, v., fit properly; "———— yourself in that chair."
square with the world, adj. phr., with the axes directed toward the cardinal points; "John's house is not ————."
stand up with, v. phr., act as best man or bridesmaid.
steal in, v. phr., make one's way into an entertainment, as the circus, without paying. T.
stinkin' hot, adj. phr., very hot.
strike out, v. phr., leave; start on a trip, "strike out for the tall timbers."
suck the hind tit, v. phr., get the worst of everything. (Ozarks.)
sugar for a cent," "Too much, phr., improbability; "That's ————" meant there must be a catch in it.
Sunday clothes, Sunday-go-to-meetin' clothes, n. phr., one's best.

sunny side of," "on the, prep. phr., on the morning side of, i.e. younger than; "—————— of forty." N.I.D. has the contrary, shady side, but not this expression.

sun-up, n., sunrise. Dial., N.

sure as God made little apples, adv. phr., certainly.

sure as hell, adv. phr., certainly.

tail over the lines," "have the, phr., be contrary, unmanageable. W.

tail wagging the dog, phr., said of an apparently minor individual "ruling the roost." D.

take it or leave it, v. phr., accept or abide the consequences; in ultimatums "——————, I don't care which." Slang.

take legs and walk off, v. phr., be stolen.

take off, v. phr., leave; "He took off down the road." (Va., N. C., S. C., Tenn.). PADS, 2.

talk a streak, v. phr., be voluble.

teched in the head, adj. phr., somewhat "off" mentally. Dial.

that's the stuff, phr., commendation of appropriate action or speech.

thick as they can stick, adv. phr., crowded, as of fruit on a limb, flies on carrion, etc.

think hard of, v. phr., hold a grudge, resent.

tie a knot in his neck, v. phr., threat of dire punishment.

toad in the puddle," "the biggest, n. phr., the most important participant; one saying relating to an ex-congressman was, "He'd rather be a big toad in a little puddle (i.e. at home) than a little toad in a big puddle" (i.e. at Washington). W.

too, adv., positively; "I do too," see "so" with the same meaning; even the redundant expression "I do so too" was possible.

towards, prep., this and similar words always carried the final "s"; e.g. backwards, forwards.

tub of guts, n. phr., a person with a great abdomen.

turn to sugar, v. phr., crystallize, as of honey or syrup.

turned up for feet, phr., "He would a been tall if there wasn't so much ——————."

unbeknownst, adv., unknown. Dial.

use, v., frequent. "A covey of 'em's been using here all winter." PADS, 2.

Wellerism. *"Every one to their taste said the old woman as she kissed the cow."*

wad, n., a considerable quantity, usually "a whole wad." Dial.

walking on eggs," "he went like he was, i.e. gingerly. D.

want, v., be willing; "I won't ask you to do it unless you want to."

warm over, v. phr., recondition a previously cooked meal or portion thereof.

warp and woof, n., phr., the whole thing. D.

ways, adv., for wise, the former always, the latter, never used, e.g. crossways, lengthways, sideways.

week (or *month*) *of Sundays*, phr., i.e., several or many weeks; a long time.

whack, n., turn; "Let me have first whack at it." Slang.

what for (pronounced "watfer"), phr., "—————— book is that?"

"What on airth are ye doin'?" phr., in astonishment or reproval; what will be next?

wicked," "no rest for the, phr., jocular comfort for oneself or another over necessary continuance in an unenviable activity.

wild hair, n. phr., lash that turns in, thus irritating the eye.

wolf in sheep's clothing, n. phr., deceiver. D.

wool, "all —————— and a yard wide," phr., used figuratively to indicate soundness of character. D., W.

young sprout, n. phr., a young person, without reference to his ancestry.

FOLK VERSE

BALLADS AND OTHER ADULT SONGS AND DITTIES

Probably ballad singing was never very prevalent in Grant County. Preserving that traditional activity requires a degree of stability in population and residence, which I fear did not there exist. The pioneers were fully occupied in hewing farms out of the forest, their sons were in the Civil War, and in less than a generation after that, commercial development, associated with the discovery and exploitation of natural gas, revolutionized living, putting an end to most of the old ways.

The source of a large proportion of the people, as noted in my 1942 paper, was the Southeastern Highlands, so they came from a ballad-singing stock. Seeds were transplanted but had little chance to grow. Though the art did not become well established, individuals remembered and sang ballads. An uncle—David McAtee—fortunately still (1946) surviving at 84 years of age was brought to the County in 1869 when seven years old. His whole life has been in Grant County and he was especially interested in singing, attending singing school, and learning to accompany himself on the guitar in songs mostly learned from books. Upon examining Brewster's Ballads and Songs of Indiana (see bibliography), he recalled having heard versions of the following 14 pieces treated in that work (titles and page references given).

	Title	*Page*
1.	Barbara Allen	99
2.	The Boston Burglar	223
3.	The Frog Went A-Courting	226
4.	The Arkansaw Traveller	265
5.	The Gypsy's Warning	271
6.	Pearl Bryan	283
7.	Babes in the Wood	313
8.	Hark to the Roaring Sheep	321
9.	The Fatal Wedding	329
10.	You've Got to Put on Airs	332
11.	Raccoon's Got a Bushy Tail	334
12.	Simon Slick	335
13.	Old Dan Tucker	340
14.	The Soldier's Song	353

As noted, Uncle David was a singer; one brother taught singing school; and another, my father (as well as my mother and myself before my voice changed), sang in a church choir. Thus if ballads were being sung, we would have been exposed to them. Yet of the 14 here listed as known to an uncle (probably in his youth), only one in its entirety came to my attention (and that as a nursery rhyme, No. 7), together with scraps of three others, Nos. 4, 13, and 14.

A stanza from "The Arkansaw Traveller" differing somewhat from the versions of Brewster (pp. 265-267) is:

They fed me on corn dodgers
As hard as any rock;
My teeth began to rattle
And my knees began to knock.

Sharp (1932, p. 170) has somewhat similar lines in a piece entitled "Old Arkansas", reported as heard in Kentucky.

Of "Old Dan Tucker," all I recall is the couplet:

"Get out of the way for old Dan Tucker
He's too late to get his supper."

Our variant of a single stanza of "The Soldier's Song" was:

There was an old soldier
Who had a wooden leg;
He had no tobacco
So tobacco he would beg.

About the same wording is given by Sandburg (1927, p. 433) as part of a Grand Army Song.

Uncle David has kindly furnished me with drafts of 14 of the songs he once sang. From study of these, in which I was aided by Dr. B. A. Botkin, then at the Library of Congress, it is apparent that only one —Pretty Maid—is a folk song.

PRETTY MAID

Where are you going, my pretty maid?
Where are you going, my pretty maid?
I'm going a milking, sir, she said,
Sir, she said, sir, she said,
I'm going a milking, sir, she said.
May I go with you, my pretty maid?
May I go with you, my pretty maid?
Just as you choose, kind sir, she said,
Sir, she said, sir, she said,
Just as you choose, kind sir, she said.
Will you marry me, my pretty maid?
Will you marry me, my pretty maid?
You may ask my father, sir, she said.
Sir, she said, sir, she said,
You may ask my father, sir, she said,
What is your fortune, my pretty maid?
What is your fortune, my pretty maid?
My face is my fortune, sir, she said,
Sir, she said, sir, she said,
My face is my fortune, sir, she said.
Then I can't marry you, my pretty maid,
Then I can't marry you, my pretty maid;
Nobody wants you, sir, she said,
Sir, she said, sir, she said,
Nobody wants you, sir, she said.

The others were doubtless learned from song books, and some of

them have been found in Delaney's Song Book and later works of that kind. The titles as given by my uncle are:

Branigan's Bull-pup
Elegant Bold McEntires
Elizabeth Calomazack
Happy Little Fly
He Keeps His Axle Greased
I Had But Fifty Cents
Mary Ann
Over the Garden Wall
Singin' School
Stick to Your Mother, Tom
The Widow Dunn
When Katy Comes Down to the Gate
Yellow Gal in the High Heel Shoes

If the songs remembered by Uncle Dave were mostly not of folk origin, it would seem that the same would be even more true of those which I recall. Yet there may be exceptions. One that my father sang and which in later years I came to regard as a "spiritual" was:

Some say that John the Babtist
Was nothin' but a Jew,
But the Holy Bible tells us
He [or John] was a preacher too.
  Oh! didn't Old Pharaoh
    Get a los't, a los't, a los't,
  Oh! didn't Old Pharaoh
    Get a los't
  Down in the Re'd Sea?

Reason for assigning folk origin to this piece lies in the following analogue heard in East Tennessee in 1878 by David Starr Jordan (1922, I, p. 172).

Some say that John the Baptist
Was nothin' but a Jew
But the Holy Bible tells us
He was a preachah, too.
  I'se listenin' all the night long
  I'se listenin' all the day,
  I'se listenin' all the night long
  To heah some sinner pray.

Scarborough, publishing upon American folk songs of British ancestry (1937), includes three, parts of which I recall from Grant County. At one time we had a "hired girl" who sang over and over again this not very cheerful verse:

Sometimes I live in the country,
Sometimes I live in town,
Sometimes the thought comes o'er me,
I'll go to the river and drown.

[A similar stanza is in Scarborough, p. 350.]

She records (p. 348) from Council, Virginia, a quatrain,

Oh, if I had wings like an angel,
Had wings and I could fly,
I would fly to the arms of my darling
And there I'd be willing to die.—

which I remember with only slight divergences as a Grant County ditty. And finally she notes (p. 321) exactly as we said it:

When I was single,
My pockets did jingle
And I wish I was single again.

While Sandburg (1927, p. 47), giving more of this piece, notes it as a minstrel song, that does not necessarily mean it is not of folk origin. It is apparent that the minstrels borrowed many a theme and tune from the people and elaborated them for the stage.

Sharp, in his "English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians" (1932, p. 345) has one from North Carolina almost word for word like the Hoosier version, entitled "The Old Grey Goose." The Indiana piece was:

Go tell Aunt Rhody
Go tell Aunt Rhody
Go tell Aunt Rhody
The old gray goose is dead.
The one that she was saving
The one that she was saving
The one that she was saving
To make a feather-bed.

Perhaps this is more in the sphere of nursery rhymes, but it is not easy, in all cases, to separate juvenile, from adult, verse. Without further discussion, I submit a number of songs, or parts thereof, which I classify as for adults. Those for youngsters will be presented following a section on play-party ditties.

She combs her hair but once in a year
  High Billy Wallacker
  Jing, bang, doodlety,
  Russelty, robbelty,
  Bow, wow, wow!
She catches a louse as big as a mouse
  [chorus]

The ship went sailing round the bend
  Good-bye my lover, good-bye!
Loaded with fish from end to end
  Good-bye my lover, good-bye!
    By-o my darling
    By-o my darling
    By-o my darling
  Good-bye my lover, good-bye!

We strolled along so lovingly,
It seemed to be a dream,
When from out the kitchen door
Came that familiar scream:
Maggie! Maggie!
The cows are in the clover
They've trampled it since morn
Go and drive them, Maggie
To the old red barn.
[repeat last 4 lines]

[This may not be a folk song, but I have not found it in any song book yet examined and would be glad to learn more about it.]

Sly old fox is hard to catch;
Neither far nor near will you find his match;
Over hill and over dale
Runs the sly old fox with the bushy tail.

Fly flew in the grocery store,
Flew right in the very front door,
Lit on the cheese and lit on the ham,
Lit all over the grocery man.

[I heard this and the preceding from the stage years after I had learned them as popular ditties.]

One for the blackbird,
Two for the crow,
Three for the cutworm,
And four to grow.

[Corn-planting chant and in a way a riddle; however, it meant one for each of these consumers, that is 4 in all (and not the apparent 10) to a hill.]

Oh Kansas Land! Oh Kansas Land!
As on the burning sod I stand,
I look away across the plains
And wonder why it never rains,
But when I hear Old Gabriel sound,
I know the rain has gone around.

Oh pertaters they grow small in Kansas,
Oh pertaters they grow small in Kansas,
Oh pertaters they grow small;
And they eat 'em rine and all
When they dig 'em in the fall,
In Kansas.

Oh the roosters they lay eggs in Kansas,
Oh the roosters they lay eggs in Kansas,
Oh the roosters they lay eggs,
As big as beer kegs,
And have whiskers on their legs,
In Kansas.

I found a horse-shoe, found a horse-shoe,
Picked it up and nailed it o'er the door;
It was rusty, full of nail holes;
Good luck to the finder evermore.

Bad Bill from Bunker Hill,
Never worked [washed] and never will.

[Sandburg has analogues of the last two in his Songbag (1927, pp. 382-383, 384-385).]

Sold agin and got the tin
And a little box to put it in.

A peach-tree in the orchard grew,
Tis true!
Oh, listen to my tale of woe.

Good night! Sleep tight;
Don't let the bedbugs bite.
[Hardly a song]

Ice cold lemonade! ice cold lemonade!
Made in the shade
And stirred with a spade.
Ice cold lemonade!
Stirred in an old rusty pail
With a bushy cow's tail.

[Alternate 2nd and 3rd lines. Chant of vendors along route to the County Fair. Some of them were "local talent."]

PLAY-PARTY SONGS

Like ballad-singing, the play-party, if ever well developed in Grant County, was decadent before my time. I never witnessed such a party and knew no adults to take part in them. The young men on a farm where, as a boy, I worked in summer, sometimes made a night of it at a shingdig (working the same as ever the next day, however), but it is my impression that round dances with instrumental music made up

the program rather than the older square dances with voice accompaniment. As noted in my 1942 paper, dancing was not in favor. Probably it never had been and the play party thus was no recognized local activity.

Still there were prevalent ditties or scraps of them that have been recorded as play-party songs. Although at the time some of these may have been purely the chants of children's games, the number is sufficient to indicate that there was a play-party tradition even if a considerably disrupted one.

There being a book on "The Play-Party in Indiana" (Wolford, 1916), it is convenient to treat these Grant County notes with reference to it. Using the titles and page numbers of that work, the songs recalled are listed below (left and middle columns). References to Botkin's treatise on The American Play-Party Song (1937) are in the right-hand column. In these books may be found information on the origin and history of some of these songs.

Title	*Wolford page* (and my comment)	*Botkin page* (and my comment)
1. Billy Boy	24. The third stanza is practically as we had it	145. See middle column
2. Chase the Buffalo	29. See our version below	308. See our version below
3. Dem Golden Slippers	38. See our version below	197. See our version below
4. The Girl I Left Behind Me	46. First stanza, less dancing directions recalled	188. See middle column
5. Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush	56. Much the same	————
6. London Bridge	64. First stanza only	————
7. Old Dan Tucker	78. "Get out of the way" couplet only	260. See middle column
8. Pig in the Parlor	81. See third column	292. Stanzas one and two are like ours
9. Polly Put the Kettle On	83. Same	293. See middle column
10. Pop Goes the Weasel	83. See our version below	————
11. Sally Walker	86. Lines, 2, 3, and 4 recalled	————
12. Skip-to-my-Lou	89. Tag line only	314. See middle column

Of these verses, Nos. 5 and 6, regardless of any roles they may have had in play-parties, were definitely accompaniments of children's games.

They are recognized as folk dances of ancient origin as are also Nos. 10 and 12. No. 11 is recorded as a child's game and No. 1 as a nursery song; No. 9 is from "Mother Goose"; Nos. 4 and 8 are folk songs; while No. 2 is traced to an emigrant, and Nos. 3 and 7 to minstrel, songs.

Remembered versions of these songs that differ notably from those given by Wolford and Botkin are for:

No. 2

Oh! we shoot the buffalo,
We shoot the buffalo;
We're marching in procession
As we shoot the buffalo.
The crow chased the buzzard
And the buzzard chased the crow;
We're marching in procession
Down on the Ohio.

No. 3

Oh! dem golden slippers, Oh! dem golden slippers,
Dem golden slippers I'se a gwine to wear
A climbin' de golden stair.

No. 10

All around the barber shop
The monkey chased the weasel;
That's the way the money goes
Pop! goes the weasel.

Again employing Botkin's work as a guide to arrangement, the following additional ditties he associates with play-party songs were duplicated or paralleled in Grant County:

Title	*Page*	*Remarks*
1. Baltimore	143	See our version below
2. John Brown's Body	221	The same
3. Little Brown Jug	230	See our version below
4. Nellie Gray	253	See our version below
5. The Ocean Is Wide	256	The last two stanzas the same; they were favorites for writing in autograph books
6. Oh, Ain't I Sweet (C)	258	One stanza is reminiscent, but see our version below
7. Old Gray Mare	268	See our version below
8. Shoo Fly	304	The first line only is remembered
9. 'Taint Goin' to Rain No More (D)	326	The last stanza on this page is nearly the same as we had it

No. 1

I got a girl in Baltimore,
Street-cars runnin' by the door,
Brussels carpet on the floor,
I got a girl in Baltimore.

No. 3

Down in the country on my farm,
Little brown jug right under my arm;
Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!, you and me
Little brown jug, how I love thee.

No. 4

Oh, my pretty Nellie Gray
They have taken her away
And I'll never see my Nellie any more;
They have taken her to Georgia
There to waste her life away
Down in the cotton and the cane.

No. 6

I wish I had a nickel,
I wish I had a dime,
I wish I had a fifteen cents
To treat that gal of mine.

No. 7

The old gray mare
She died in the wilderness,
  Died in the wilderness,
  Died in the wilderness;
The old gray mare
She died in the wilderness
And the buzzards picked her bones.

The old gray mare
She ain't what she used to be,
  Ain't what she used to be,
  Ain't what she used to be;
The old gray mare
She ain't what she used to be
Since the buzzards picked her bones.

[In later years I heard this sung by a college glee club.]

My impression is that the play-party songs, in the mass, are a hodgepodge, lines, couplets, and stanzas being borrowed from a multiplicity of sources (including interborrowings). I may have strained a point in associating some of the preceding with the play-party tradition.

More likely they were simply ditties, sung for personal or company amusement, that were passed along orally and were in no way connected with dancing.

Slightly reminiscent of one of our songs are lines from "Old Virginny Never Tire" Botkin, p. 287) but as we chanted it, there was no connotation of the dance, except that the tune was "Turkey in the Straw." My recollection of it is as follows:

I went to the river
And I couldn't get across;
I paid five dollars
For an old white hoss;
The hoss couldn't swin
So I traded for a boat;
The boat wouldn't float
So I traded, etc.

[Had an indefinite number of extemporized verses, the bard ending empty-handed and not across the river.]

My cousin, Edna McAtee, has kindly supplied a version that illustrates one termination:

I went to the river
And I couldn't get across;
I paid five dollars
For an old blind hoss;
The hoss wouldn't run
So I traded for a gun;
The gun wouldn't shoot
So I traded for a boot;
The boot wouldn't wear
So I traded for a bear;
The bear wouldn't holler
So I traded for a dollar;
The dollar wouldn't spend
And that's the end.

JUVENILE VERSE AND CHANTS

A dividing line between songs of the play-party type and children's ditties is not always clear, but being guided by the authorities in making assignments to the preceding section, I assume that what is left may safely be classified as juvenile verse.

Starting formulas—

One for the money,
Two for the show,
Three to make ready,
And four to go.

(Compare corn planting chant, p. 16)
Or more briefly: One, two, three, Go!

Counting out rhymes—

Eeny, meeny, miny, mo,
Catch a nigger by the toe
If he hollers let him go
Eeny, meeny, miny mo.

Onery, twoery, ickory Ann,
Fillison, follison, Nicholas John,
Queevy, quavy, English navy,
Stinklum, stanklum, buck.

Eena, deena, dina, dus,
Cattla, weela, wila, wus,
Spit, spot, must be done,
Tweedlum, twaddlum, twenty-one.

[The second preceding ditty seems to be of English origin and this one is recorded from Essex in practically the same form by Bett, 1924, p. 58.]

Engine, engine, number nine
Running on Chicago time.

Monkey, monkey, bottle of beer,
How many monkeys have we here?

Nigger, nigger, never die
Black face and shiny eye.

Each of these last three ditties had appended:

One, two, three,
Out goes he.

Hide and Seek counting—

In this game, the seeker was required to hide his eyes long enough to count a certain number of hundreds. Unless the method of counting was agreed upon, it was likely to be a very rapid one, as by tens, or even fifties by very nervy individuals. A common formula, which almost any player might use, if not interdicted, was: "Ten, ten, double-ten, forty-five, and fifteen." Thus so young was practiced what the adult world politely calls, finesse.

Sadistic sallies—

Johnny Johnson ain't no good;
Chop him up for kindlin' wood.

Mary's sad but I am glad
And I know what to please her;
A bottle of wine to make her fine [or shine]
And Billy Jones to squeeze her.

[Addressed to either sex and any person, with changes to suit. The third line was varied, sometimes to rather vulgar forms. Suggestions: ale-pale; beer-queer; ink-stink.]

Throwing some water, dust, gravel, or even heavier objects in the air over others, the perpetrator announced:

What goes up must come down
Either on heads or on the ground.

Adam and Eve and Pinch-me
Went down to the river to bathe;
Adam and Eve were drownded;
Who was saved?

[If the victim "bit," saying "Pinch-me," his "request" was heartily acted upon.]

Pies and cakes
Make stomach aches;
Cakes and pies
I do despise.

[Original years later.]

Mary ate jam
Mary ate jelly
Mary soon had
A pain in the belly.

[A modern Bowdlerized ending is:

Now don't be alarmed
Don't be misled,
What Mary had
Was a pain in the head.]

Innocuous ditties.

Down went McGintee
To the bottom of the sea;
If he's down there yet,
He must be wet.

Eye winker, nose bumper,
Mouth eater, chin chopper.

[With appropriate gestures; longer variants of this from other localities calling for demonstration on other persons, would have to be referred to the sadistic group.]

With the fingers interlaced and the two indexers making the steeple,

the first two lines of the following stanza were recited; then, to fit the last two, the hands were reversed and opened to show the ends of all the fingers:

Here's the church
And there's the steeple;
Open it up
And see the people.

I had a little dog
Whose name was Rover;
When he died,
He died all over.

I know something I won't tell
Three little niggers in a peanut shell.

I like coffee, I like tea
I like the girls [boys] and the girls [boys] like me.

[Probably misplaced here; may belong in the play-party type; and was inscribed in autograph books.]

Johnny get your gun
And sword and pistol,
Johnny get your gun
And fifteen cents.

What's your name:
Pudden Tame;
Ask me again
And I'll tell you the same.

Mother Goose type.

Recognized Mother Goose rhymes were universal; those most prevalent seemed to be "Patty Cake," "This Little Pig Went to Market," and "Baby Bunting" for infants, and "Jack and Jill" and "Mary Had a Little Lamb" among children a few years older.

Fishie, fishie in the brook,
Daddy catch him with a hook,
Mamma fry him in a pan,
Baby eat him like a man.

Mother, may I go out to swim?
Yes, my darling daughter,
Hang your clothes on a hickory limb
But don't go near the water.

Oh where, oh where is my little dog gone?
Oh where, oh where can he be?
With his ears cut short
And his tail cut long
Oh where, oh where is he?

The "Animal Fair" was known to teen-agers, but this was a widely used minstrel song and from its subject and wording is hardly of folk origin.

Brian O'Lin

[Sharp. 1932, pp. 202-203, gives, as heard in Kentucky, a quatrain entitled "Tom Bolyn". His including the piece shows it is traceable to the British Isles. His version is reminiscent of the second stanza below, which is as I learned it from the people. The remainder of this presentation is of my own authorship, written for the amusement of my children. I now regret to note that the attitude toward wildlife in this as in some of the other juvenile verse is hardly sympathetic. Insofar, it belies my present position as I believe that thorough conservation should be taught to all children.]

Brian O'Lin had no house to his name
So he crept in a cave and used it the same;
His feet thru the door stuck out in the wind,
"My soul, this is airy," said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin had no breeches to wear
So he stole him a sheepskin and made him a pair,
With the skinny side out and the wooly side in,
"Ah ha, that is warrum," said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin had no shirt to his back
But lucky, he found an old empty sack;
Cut holes for his arms and to put his head in,
"That's neat as a pin" said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin had no shoes for his feet;
Two rabbits, said Brian, will fix them up neat,
Their skins he then used with the outside turned in,
"I can pussyfoot now," said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin had no hat to his head,
So he snared him a pheasant with feathers so red;
A touch here and there made a cap of its skin;
"My, aint it a daisy," said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin had no knife nor no blade
So he borrowed a scythe and a keen one he made;
It was long, it was strong, the edge, it was thin,
Ah me, its a darlin", said Brian O'Lin.

Brian O'Lin no shillaly had he
So he cut him a good one from a thorn apple tree;

It was knotty and tough, fit for cavin' heads in,
"What more can I wish," said Brian O'Lin.

MISCELLANY

Worth recording here is a chant which my father said was used in schools of southern Ohio in learning the alphabet. I have since been informed that it was employed also in southern Indiana. The following is a sample; apparently all practicable consonants were run through in the same way.

B, a—ba
B, e—bē
B, i—bĭcabī
B, o—bo, bĭcabībo
B, u—boo, bĭcabīboboo.

(See footnote, §)

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1944. Word-lists from the South. Publication No. 2, 72 pp. Greensboro, N. C.
Includes 8 papers, some of which are referred to in preceding pages of this brochure. The percentages of the words recorded in these lists that I recall being used in Grant County are: Dennis, Alabama, etc., 34.5; Combs, Southern Highlands, 9.7; Laughlin, Ohio and North Carolina, 43.1; Williams, Kentucky and North Carolina, 15.0; Hayes, North Carolina, 17.5; Wilson, Virginia and North Carolina, 20.1; and Bey *et al.*, Missouri, 29.5. Those in the present list suggested by this collection are labelled PADS, 2.

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1937. The American play-party song, with a collection of Oklahoma texts and tunes. Lincoln, Nebr. 400 pp.

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McAtee, W. L.
1942. Rural dialect of Grant County, Indiana, in the 'Nineties. 81 pp. Printed Vienna, Virginia; published Chicago, Illinois.

§ (The a in ba, the o in bo and bicabibo and the first o in bicabīboboo, all have the long sound.)

1943. Additional dialect of Grant County, Indiana. 16 pp. Printed Vienna, Virginia; published Chicago, Illinois.

1943. Recorded appearance. American Speech, 18, pp. 306-307.
Reference to word "chounse", and plea for study of the speech of the people.

1943. Pronunciation of leer. American Speech, 18, pp. 308-309.
The annealing oven of a glass factory; "layer"; a town term.

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1945. Four notes on American English. American Speech, 20, pp. 230-231.
Includes "Chicago light" a name ignorantly applied to the planet Venus, an evening star, during the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. A town term.

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1946. A glossary of Virginia words. Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc., 5, pp. 7-43.
36.8 percent of the words recorded were used in Grant County. (The initial N, *ante*, indicates words suggested to me by this article.) In this list are references to several glossaries and dictionaries not, however, including N.I.D., comparison with which would have shown that many of the entries are in general use. Of the 96 recognized as Grant County expressions, 49 have ordinary meanings as defined by the N.I.D. and 5 others are there labelled as colloquial.

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1932. English folk songs from the southern Appalachians. London. Vol. 2, xi+411 pp.

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1916. The play-party in Indiana. Indiana Historical Collections, 4, 120 pp.

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1927. Dialect words and phrases from west-central West Virginia. American Speech, 2 pp. 347-367.
Out of somewhat more than 800 expressions in this collection 350 (43.3%) are recalled as being used in Grant County. Eliminating those adequately explained in the N.I.D., the remainder (30), excluding pronunciations and terms previously thought of, are annotated in this pamphlet and designated by the initial, W.

Privately printed 1946

Suppl. 2 had shit-house and other ribald "poetry"

GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA, SPEECH AND SONG

By W. L. McATEE

Supplement 1

(Folk Speech)

Items recalled since the 1942 paper,* and in a few cases additional comment, are here included. The plan of presentation remains the same.

GLOSSARY

back teeth are floating," "I feel like my, saying when the bladder is very full. In extreme cases the sensation is anything but pleasant, simulating tooth-ache.

bare as a baby's ass, simile.

beat hell (or the livin' hell) out of, v. phr., punish severely.

break leg above knee, v. phr. Additional comment: Grose, 1785 (p. 103) gives "break a leg," to have a bastard. The form I cite is in a song in "The Loyal Subject" (c. 1679) by Beaumont and Fletcher (T. R. Smith, Poetica Erotica, 1927, p. 201).

bung-hole, n., ass-hole.

burnt, adj., afflicted by a venereal disease. Grose, 1785; OED gives an example dated 1693. T.

cheesy, adj., having an accumulation of smegma under the prepuce back of the *glans penis.*

colder than Billy be damned, simile.

come, v., experience orgasm. A venerable acquaintance on Church's Island, North Carolina, illustrated this meaning in conversation with me. Said he, "People ask me how I can keep my young wife satisfied and I say, just by takin' it easy. That way while I'm a-comin' once, she comes two or three times."

diddle, v., copulate. Additional comment: This word and sense occur in "Choyce Drollery," 1656 (T. R. Smith, Poetica Erotica, 1927, p. 255).

do a job, phr., defecate.

fart, n., a small consideration, "not worth a ————."

fart, n., a worthless person.

fart, v., speak in a bombastic manner, "sich fartin."

fart around, v. phr., work ineffectively, waste time.

foot slipped, v. phr., in explanation of a wife's new pregnancy; "My ———— at just the wrong time."

fuck, interj., usually preceded by "an", expressive of impatience, disgust, disappointment.

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*Supplement to Rural Dialect of Grant County, Indiana, in the 'Nineties, 10 pp.

fucking, adj., in derogatory, or from habit, in quite neutral senses.

go off, v. phr., ejaculate semen.

gut, n., stomach. A common greeting to a fisherman was "What luck?", and a frequent reply, "A wet ass and a hungry gut."

hang (someone's) *picture in the privy to scare the rats away.* Said of someone disliked or, perhaps, merely thought ugly. Benjamin Franklin reported an even more satisfying French custom of having the portrait painted on the interior bottom of a shit-pot.

hard up, adj phr., short on sexual indulgence, "You wouldn't screw an old woman like her?" "That'd depend on how ———— I was."

horny, adj., amorous (Va.) If this is the source of the colloquial "ornry," we can see why that word has in many places an immoral significance.

hot-damn, interj., euphemism for God-damn. T.

leak, n. and v., piss; "take a leak."

like a dose of salts," "go through, v. phr., accomplish expeditiously, said of tasks quickly done.

looking-glass, n., ass. In skating, a familiar warning was "Watch out or you'll break your ————."

pain, n., in derogatory comment; "That gives (or you give) me a ———— in the ass." (or guts, nuts, or elsewhere).

piss and vinegar, n., phr., life, spirit, "full of ————."

piss hard-on, n., phr., an erection due to the irritation of a full bladder.

piss-pot, n., chamber pot.

pull one's pud, phr., masturbate (Va., N. C., S. C.) T.

red as a baby's ass, simile; "She blushed ————."

regular as clockwork, adj. phr., descriptive of satisfactory action of the bowels. (Va.)

rosette, n., the evaginated rectum of a horse as seen during defecation.

rub his nose in it, phr.; part of the process of house-breaking an animal; also on fitting occasions recommended for people.

scare the piss (or shit) out of, phr., frighten badly. I have heard my grandfather say that when going into battle in the Civil War, men could be seen in all directions taking down their pants and shitting. Nevertheless, we also said "scared pissless", that is presumably until urination is impossible.

shit, n., a contemptible person. In an office building in Washington a watchman (I believe he came from Virginia) remarked, "There's a lot of nice people here, but there's also a lot of damned shits."

shit-pot, n., chamber pot or "thunder-mug."

shot-gun wedding, n. phr., one forced by the irate father of a pregnant girl. B.

signs. Tickling the palm of a girl's hand with one's forefinger was an invitation to copulation. Additional comment: This was also known in France as Honore de Balzac wrote (Droll Stories from the Abbeys of Touraine, transl. London, 1874, p. 104), "put your soft hands into the ladies' hands and tickle them in the middle—of the hand, of course."

son of a bitch, n. One definition was: A man who can count the hairs on a cunt without getting a hard-on. T.

swimming-hole customs.—It was a practice of boys to piss on the legs, before entering the water, to "prevent" cramps. A somewhat allied action—spitting upon one's self as a guard against bad omens—prevailed among the Romans (Tibullus, Elegy V, first century B. C.) By thrusting a hand between the legs from behind and drawing the penis down tight over the scrotum, an imitation of the female pudendum was produced; this was called "making a cunt."

"they're off," said the monkey as he set down on a steel-trap. A Wellerism.

tired, adj., in expressions of disgust: "That makes (or you make) my ass tired."

CORRECTIONS TO THE 1942 SUPPLEMENT

Page

1. Boccaccio (5th paragraph) should have had two double "c"s as here.

3. Under "bitch," vilification should have been spelled with only one "l."

   Under "caught with," etc., disadvantage should have had an "a" in the last syllable.

4. Under "dirty," the abbreviation in parentheses should have been Va.

5. Horsey should have been labelled adj.

8. Under sarchin, "plumbed" should be "plumped."

Privately printed 1946

GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA, SPEECH AND SONG

By W. L. McATEE

Supplement 2

(Folk Verse)

Obscenity is not something to be decried or denied but to be recognized as part of life. In folk speech it should be recorded as an element of the whole and neither magnified nor minimized. It deserves study as much as any other part of the language and should be approached without prejudice.

With my views as expressed in the Supplement of 1942 and as here manifested, it may be asked why I segregate the obscene material. I have even been told that mixing it with the remainder might make the paper passable through the mail, regulations concerning which I so chided in my earlier publication. However, I have friends who enjoy reading the decent dialect, but not the reverse and under no consideration would I thrust it upon. They are esteemed, even revered, people, and while our mental orbits intersect they do not coincide. I would no more expect them to give up their views than I would abandon my own.

As with all assemblages of material, there is some doubt as how best to organize it, lines being hard to draw anyway, but it may be safe to start with clearly juvenile verses.

1. Childhood ditties:

Admittedly in the realm of childhood are counting-out rhymes. One of ours was:

Ass-hole, touch-hole, my old hen,
She lays eggs for the railroad men,
Sometimes two and sometimes ten,
Ass-hole, touch-hole, my old hen.

Doggerel certainly learned in early school years included:

The woodpecker pecked on the schoolhouse door
And he pecked and he pecked
till his pecker was sore.

L. L. Buchanan tells me this was prevalent in Iowa and involved several verses, referring to the schoolhouse loft (soft), the schoolhouse yard (hard), and perhaps other places, the whole thing ending—

"And whenever he thinks of the schoolhouse yard,
His head gets red and his pecker gets hard."

The following was taught me by a girl acquaintance of about my age (8-10), so I class it as juvenile:

Fire in the mountain,
snakes in the grass,
The old woman died
with a rag in her ass;
The rag blew out
and the wind flew in,
And the old woman
came to life agin.

A chant used as one means of persuading others to join a gang was:

All going my way,
join my class;
All going the other way,
kiss my ass.

---

2. Parodies on play party songs:

PIG IN THE PARLOR

The old dog pissed on the bedpost,
[Thrice repeated]
And that was Irish too.

[I believe there were a good many indecent supplements to this song, but this is the only one I recall.]

CHASE THE BUFFALO

The crow fucked the buzzard,
And the buzzard fucked the crow;
We're marching in procession,
Down on the Ohio.

---

3. Parodies on patriotic airs:

Yankee Doodle had a cat
And it was double-pointed;
Took it to the blacksmith shop
To have its pecker pointed.

Hail Columbia, happy land!
Baby shit in papa's hand;
Papa went to get a switch,
Baby called him a son-of-a-bitch.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,
Cheer up, Comrades, and be gay,
For beneath the starry flag,
Mary had a little lamb,
And its fleece was white as Old Black Joe.

---

4. Parodies on hymns:

At the bar, at the bar,
Where I smoked my first cigar
And the money in my pocket rolled away;
It was there by chance
I slipped it up her pants
And now I do it every day.

Let this man here kiss that man's ass,
And let that man kiss thine,
And when you all have kissed around,
Then each of you kiss mine.

---

5. Parodies on popular songs:

The Irish and the Jews
They don't amount to much,
But they're a damned sight better
Than the god-damned Dutch.
Oh, the Dutch companee
Is the best companee
That ever came over from old Germanee.

Coon fuck to change the luck,
French fuck am fine;
German screw, I like that too,
Chinese am divine
But of all the fucks of a fuckin' life
From woman down to man,
The fuck that tickles my pecker the most
Is hand, hand, hand!

The train was coming down the track,
She blew, she blew;
The train was coming down the track,
She blew, she blew;
The flagman went to turn a switch
And cut his foot in a pile of shit,
She blew, blew, blew.

Also the following narrative lines:

The conductor he fell off on his guts
And three cars and the caboose ran over his nuts.

[Carl Sandburg in "The American Songbag," 1927, p. 379, has a decent version, entitled "The Wind It Blew Up the Railroad Track."]

6. Miscellaneous:

Three spaces from the chin
Is the place to put it in.

Chippy get your hair cut,
Hair cut, hair cut,
Chippy get your hair cut,
Fifteen cents.

[In Dialect Notes 4(5), 1916, p. 321, is the same with the last line reading "Pompadour"; no locality given.]

Mama, Mama, what is that,
Hanging down like a baseball bat?
Oh, shut up, you little brat,
That's what makes your Mama fat.

When a man grows old,
His stones grow cold
And the head of his pecker turns blue;
When he goes to diddle
It bends in the middle
Did this ever happen to you?

Fly flew in the grocery store,
Flew right in the very front door,
Shit on the cheese and shit on the ham,
Shit all over the grocery man.

[When an actor started this one time I wondered which version he might let slip; the decent one has "lit" for "shit."]

One of those rambling ditties allowing full scope for individual invention had the following framework:

I tickled her toe and she began to know

(Other pairs of words that might be used: shin, grin; calf, laugh; knee, pee; thigh, cry; cunt, grunt.)

Finale: "But I slipped it in clear up to her chin."

The whipstock had been broken
And I took that for a token;
The laprobe had been trailed along the ground;
A wet spot on the cushion
Showed there had been pushin';
There were footprints on the dashboard upside down.

My name is Joe Taylor,
My prick is a whaler,
My ballocks weigh 99 pound;
If I ever catch Hanner [i. e. Hannah]
I'll fuck her, god damn her,
I'll pin her old ass to the ground.

THE WILD IRISHMAN

Oh, Mollie and Maggie, now come her right quick
And see the wild Irishman skin his prick;
It's long as your arm and thick as your wrist,
With a head on the end as big as your fist.

They tell me, my dears, that once it is in,
It tunnels a girl from her slit to her chin,
And feels so damned good she only can grin
To have that great tool aboring within.

It fills her inside with a feeling so warm
As to-ing and fro-ing, it works like a charm
And Paradise gates she sees open wide
Before the wild Irishman's through with his ride.

[First stanza or most of it heard as folk verse; remainder supplied.]

NOTE

7. Back-House (or Shithouse) Poetry:

This is a recognized department of folk verse, which has had at least one scholarly treatment, namely, "Lexical Evidence from Folk Epigraphy," etc., by Allen Walker Read (Paris, 1935, 83 pp.) I have been reminded of some Grant County ditties by that publication and have had aid in completing fragments in both this and the preceding section by K. B. W. Keith.

= GL!

Perhaps as an invocation we might quote:

Of all the ports beneath the skies,
The shit-house poet I most despise.

Probably the most commonly inscribed ditty was:

If you want to shit with ease,
Put your elbows on your knees,
Square your ass across the hole,
And shit away, god-damn your soul.

Run-of-the-mine items:

Here I sit, all broken-hearted,
Came to shit, and only farted.

Here I sit in silent bliss,
Listening to the dribbling piss;
Now and then a fart is heard,
Now and then a dropping turd.

Mercy! mercy! what a blessing!
Girls can shit without undressing
While as for us poor sons-of-bitches,
We must undress or shit our britches.

Some come here to sit and think
But I come here to shit and stink.

Joe Baker, Joe Baker, the candlestick maker
He wiped his ass on a piece of brown paper;
The paper was thin and his fingers slipped in,
And oh! what a fix Joe Baker was in.

Tread softly and speak low,
For many a noble dinner
Lies interred [in turd] below.

Prose, but of the same sphere:

Those making deposits in this bank, please leave no small change on the counter.

By way of epilogue, some real or pretended objector usually got in this scribble:

Fool's names like their faces
Are always seen in public places.

A worth-while addition, though it has nothing to do with Grant County is the almost Shakespearian:

'Tis not the weight of my burden that brings me here,
But the slightness of my hold upon it.
[Collected in Western Canada by P. A. Taverner.]

8. Postscript:

Although the lowest conversation I have ever heard has been that of small town barber shops, I would record that most of the material in this Supplement is of town, not rural, origin. Probably the most prolific source of shit-house poetry was the walls of latrines in the County Court House.

Privately printed 1946

GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA, SPEECH AND SONG

By W. L. McAtee

Supplement 2
(Folk Verse)

Obscenity is not something to be decried or denied but to be recognized as part of life. In folk speech it should be recorded as an element of the whole and neither magnified nor minimized. It deserves study as much as any other part of the language and should be approached without prejudice.

With my views as expressed in the Supplement of 1942 and as here manifested, it may be asked why I segregate the obscene material. I have even been told that mixing it with the remainder might make the paper passable through the mail, regulations concerning which I so chided in my earlier publication. However, I have friends who enjoy reading the decent dialect, but not the reverse and under no consideration would I thrust it upon. They are esteemed, even revered, people, and while our mental orbits intersect they do not coincide. I would no more expect them to give up their views than I would abandon my own.

As with all assemblages of material, there is some doubt as how best to organize it, lines being hard to draw anyway, but it may be safe to start with clearly juvenile verses.

1. Childhood ditties:

Admittedly in the realm of childhood are counting-out rhymes. One of ours was:

Ass-hole, touch-hole, my old hen,
She lays eggs for the railroad men,
Sometimes two and sometimes ten,
Ass-hole, touch-hole, my old hen.

Doggerel certainly learned in early school years included:

The woodpecker pecked on the schoolhouse door
And he pecked and he pecked
till his pecker was sore.

L. L. Buchanan tells me this was prevalent in Iowa and involved several verses, referring to the schoolhouse loft (soft), the schoolhouse yard (hard), and perhaps other places, the whole thing ending—

"And whenever he thinks of the schoolhouse yard,
His head gets red and his pecker gets hard."

The following was taught me by a girl acquaintance of about my age (8-10), so I class it as juvenile:

Fire in the mountain,
snakes in the grass,
The old woman died
with a rag in her ass;
The rag blew out
and the wind flew in,
And the old woman
came to life agin.

A chant used as one means of persuading others to join a gang was:

All going my way,
join my class;
All going the other way,
kiss my ass.

---

2. Parodies on play party songs:

PIG IN THE PARLOR

The old dog pissed on the bedpost,
[Thrice repeated]
And that was Irish too.

[I believe there were a good many indecent supplements to this song, but this is the only one I recall.]

CHASE THE BUFFALO

The crow fucked the buzzard,
And the buzzard fucked the crow;
We're marching in procession,
Down on the Ohio.

---

3. Parodies on patriotic airs:

Yankee Doodle had a cat
And it was double-pointed;
Took it to the blacksmith shop
To have its pecker pointed.

Hail Columbia, happy land!
Baby shit in papa's hand;
Papa went to get a switch,
Baby called him a son-of-a-bitch.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,
Cheer up, Comrades, and be gay,
For beneath the starry flag,
Mary had a little lamb,
And its fleece was white as Old Black Joe.

---

4. Parodies on hymns:

At the bar, at the bar,
Where I smoked my first cigar
And the money in my pocket rolled away;
It was there by chance
I slipped it up her pants
And now I do it every day.

Let this man here kiss that man's ass,
And let that man kiss thine,
And when you all have kissed around,
Then each of you kiss mine.

---

5. Parodies on popular songs:

The Irish and the Jews
They don't amount to much,
But they're a damned sight better
Than the god-damned Dutch.
Oh, the Dutch companee
Is the best companee
That ever came over from old Germanee.

Coon fuck to change the luck,
French fuck am fine;
German screw, I like that too,
Chinese am divine
But of all the fucks of a fuckin' life
From woman down to man,
The fuck that tickles my pecker the most
Is hand, hand, hand!

The train was coming down the track,
She blew, she blew;
The train was coming down the track,
She blew, she blew;
The flagman went to turn a switch
And cut his foot in a pile of shit,
She blew, blew, blew.

Also the following narrative lines:

The conductor he fell off on his guts
And three cars and the caboose ran over his nuts.

[Carl Sandburg in "The American Songbag," 1927, p. 379, has a decent version, entitled "The Wind It Blew Up the Railroad Track."]

6. Miscellaneous:

Three spaces from the chin
Is the place to put it in.

Chippy get your hair cut,
Hair cut, hair cut,
Chippy get your hair cut,
Fifteen cents.

[In Dialect Notes 4(5), 1916, p. 321, is the same with the last line reading "Pompadour"; no locality given.]

Mama, Mama, what is that,
Hanging down like a baseball bat?
Oh, shut up, you little brat,
That's what makes your Mama fat.

When a man grows old,
His stones grow cold
And the head of his pecker turns blue;
When he goes to diddle
It bends in the middle
Did this ever happen to you?

Fly flew in the grocery store,
Flew right in the very front door,
Shit on the cheese and shit on the ham,
Shit all over the grocery man.

[When an actor started this one time I wondered which version he might let slip; the decent one has "lit" for "shit."]

One of those rambling ditties allowing full scope for individual invention had the following framework:

I tickled her toe and she began to know

(Other pairs of words that might be used: shin, grin; calf, laugh; knee, pee; thigh, cry; cunt, grunt.)

Finale: "But I slipped it in clear up to her chin."

The whipstock had been broken
And I took that for a token;
The laprobe had been trailed along the ground;
A wet spot on the cushion
Showed there had been pushin';
There were footprints on the dashboard upside down.

My name is Joe Taylor,
My prick is a whaler,
My ballocks weigh 99 pound;
If I ever catch Hanner [i. e. Hannah]
I'll fuck her, god damn her,
I'll pin her old ass to the ground.

THE WILD IRISHMAN

Oh, Mollie and Maggie, now come her right quick
And see the wild Irishman skin his prick;
It's long as your arm and thick as your wrist,
With a head on the end as big as your fist.

They tell me, my dears, that once it is in,
It tunnels a girl from her slit to her chin,
And feels so damned good she only can grin
To have that great tool aboring within.

It fills her inside with a feeling so warm
As to-ing and fro-ing, it works like a charm
And Paradise gates she sees open wide
Before the wild Irishman's through with his ride.

[First stanza or most of it heard as folk verse; remainder supplied.]

NOTE

7. Back-House (or Shithouse) Poetry:

This is a recognized department of folk verse, which has had at least one scholarly treatment, namely, "Lexical Evidence from Folk Epigraphy," etc., by Allen Walker Read (Paris, 1935, 83 pp.) I have been reminded of some Grant County ditties by that publication and have had aid in completing fragments in both this and the preceding section by K. B. W. Keith.

= GL!

Perhaps as an invocation we might quote:

Of all the ports beneath the skies,
The shit-house poet I most despise.

Probably the most commonly inscribed ditty was:

If you want to shit with ease,
Put your elbows on your knees,
Square your ass across the hole,
And shit away, god-damn your soul.

Run-of-the-mine items:

Here I sit, all broken-hearted,
Came to shit, and only farted.

Here I sit in silent bliss,
Listening to the dribbling piss;
Now and then a fart is heard,
Now and then a dropping turd.

Mercy! mercy! what a blessing!
Girls can shit without undressing
While as for us poor sons-of-bitches,
We must undress or shit our britches.

Some come here to sit and think
But I come here to shit and stink.

Joe Baker, Joe Baker, the candlestick maker
He wiped his ass on a piece of brown paper;
The paper was thin and his fingers slipped in,
And oh! what a fix Joe Baker was in.

Tread softly and speak low,
For many a noble dinner
Lies interred [in turd] below.

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By way of epilogue, some real or pretended objector usually got in this scribble:

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Privately printed 1946

Cundumana

By W. L. McAtee

CUNDUMANA

By W. L. McATEE

An R.C. girl is alleged to have prayed, "Oh Holy Mother, who didst conceive without sinning, grant me the grace of sinning without conceiving." She would understand at once the virtue that lies in the cundum but protagonists, early and late, have preferred to dwell upon its antiseptic value. It was a guard against the "French disease" or syphilis, which was a far more serious thing in early cundum days than it is now, especially under penicillin treatment.

Gabriello Fallopio (1523-1562), Italian anatomist, (but also canon in a cathedral), who specialized on the sexual organs of women, and for whom the fallopian tubes are named, appears to have been the inventor of these protective sheaths, which are described in his work "De morbo gallico" Venice, Ed. 2, 1565, chapter 88. His were made of linen.

Their use spread rapidly especially in "high" society. Eric Partridge (A Dictionary of Slang . . . New York, Ed. 2, 1938) informs us that in 1667 the "three aristocratic courtiers, wits and poets, Rochester, Roscommon and Dorsett, issued a Panegyric upon Cundum." I have not seen this reference, but in "The works of the Earls of Rochester, Roscommon and Dorset: The Dukes of Devonshire, Buckinghamshire" . . . London, 1739, Vol. II, is "A Panegyrick upon Cundums" (pp. 207-212) the authorship of which is not clearly stated. These men were in the court of Charles II, in the ribald restoration years of 1660-1685. The author or authors of the "Panegyrick" attribute invention of the cundum to Colonel Cundum (Partridge adds "in the Guards"). Unless as an independent inventor, this claim is too much, but at least the Colonel gave the name by which the device is most widely known in the English-speaking world.

A panegyric, by definition, is extravagant laudation and this one does not fail to meet the specification. Its style may be illustrated by some of the opening lines:

> "O all ye Nymphs, in lawless-Love's Disport
> Assiduous, whose ever open arms
> Both Day and Night stand ready to receive
> The fierce Assaults of Britain's am'rous Sons!
>
> * * * * *
>
> Hear and Attend: In Cundum's mighty praise
> I sing, for sure tis worthy of a Song.

The utility of the article is sketched in the following passage:

> "Cundum I sing, by Cundum now secure
> Boldly the willing Maid, by Fear awhile
> Kept virtuous, owns thy Pow'r, and tastes thy joys
> Tumultuous; Joys untasted but for Thee.
> Unknown big Belly, and the squawking Brat,
> Best Guard of Modesty! She riots now
> Thy Vot'ry in the Fulness of thy Bliss.
> Happy the man, who in his Pocket keeps
> Whether with Green or Scarlet Ribband bound,
> A well made Cundum—He, nor dreads the Ills
> Of Shankers or Cordee, or Buboes Dire!"

The supposed inventor of the Cundum is placed in the Hall of Fame, above Sir Isaac Newton, great mathematician and discoverer of the Law of Gravitation.

> "Hail, happy Albion, in whose fruitful Land
> The wondrous Pimp arose, from whose strange Skill
> In inmost Nature, thou reap'd more than Fame,
> More solid Glory, than from Newton's Toil;
> Newton who next is England's noblest Boast."

We can usually count upon the revered antiquarian, Francis Grose (c. 1730-1791), to add an interesting bit to any recondite subject. In "A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue" (1785), he agrees with the ascription to "one Colonel Cundum" and goes on to say:

"These machines were long prepared, and sold by a matron of the name of Philips, at the green canister in Half-moon-street, in the Strand (London). That good lady having acquired a fortune retired from business; but learning that the town was not well served by her successors, out of a patriotic zeal for the public welfare, returned to her occupation, of which she gave notice by diverse handbills, in circulation in the year 1776." Would that some of these bills were available; they would teach us not only of that time but doubtless would give us lessons in ordinary frankness and honesty.

In their middle age, cundums were made largely from the caeca (blind guts) of sheep and calves, less often from those of deer and other ruminants.[1] These were treated repeatedly with alkalies to remove fatty and fleshy tissues, then bleached, formed and dried. Thus the caecal cundum was essentially a blind tube of connective tissue—an animal membrane, through which when wet, according to one Lott's researches, spermatazoa may pass in ten minutes. Alas! for human confidence.

However, ten minutes may have provided a sufficient margin of safety, as the manufacturer of caecal cundums continued to grow. In Lyon, France, in 1877, some ninety female and male workers prepared from 18 to 20 thousands daily. Damage to the skin of their hands by the alkalies was an occupational hazard. Four grades of the product, derived from sheep, were sorted out according to the thinness of the wall, varying from a hundredth of a millimeter, or a little less, to three hundredths. Those from calves were slightly thicker, from .015 to .04 mms. These grades were sold as free from defects and brought from 8.65 to 25.20 marks per gross. At the old rate for the mark (23.8 cents), these prices were equivalent to about two to six dollars per twelve dozen—much under modern prices, even considering devaluation of the dollar. Surprising as it may seem, there was a market also for cundums damaged in the process of manufacture, and then patched, although it was admitted that the patches might be loosened by moisture.

Caecal cundums are still made in France and Spain and are claimed to retain their effectiveness better in tropical countries than do those of rubber. Cundums have been (and still are) formed from the air-bladders of fishes and they have been made also from fine silk, and linen fabrics. They are mostly of test-tube form, but some have a teat end; and short ones (acorn cundums) to cover only the glans have been (we should think precariously) tried. Also some have been equipped with fricative devices designed to increase pleasure of the female partner. The prevailing modern material is a soft, silky rubber tissue of surprising thinness. Cundums are used in the United States to the extent of millions daily. Current (1954) prices for mail orders run from $1.50 to $3.00 per dozen for rubber goods and from $4.00 to $5.00 for "fish skin" protectors. There appear to be no statistics as to total production.

Synonymy

Variants of the common name, known to me include: condom, condrum, condum, cundom, cundrum, and cundum.

Synonyms are: Acorn cundum (one covering only the glans); American letter; American tip (=acorn c.); bout Americain (French, American tip); capote (French, cloak); capote Anglaise (Fr., English cloak); fishskin (made from the air bladder of a fish); French letter; French skin (a caecal cundum); Grecian cap (acorn cundum); Italian letter; Malthus cap (=acorn cundum); Merry Widow (In her distinctive era, no flapper would have considered

[1] Information in this, and the succeeding paragraph is chiefly from A. Meyerhoff (pseudonym, Hans Ferdy), Die Mittel Zur Verhutung der Conception, Berlin, 1895, 76pp.

herself completely equipped unless she had a few merry widows tucked in her purse.); preventive, prophylactic, or safety sheath, or simply, sheath ("Sheaths that make light love safe," Robinson Jeffers, Selected Poems, New York, 1938: 360); Spanish letter; Spanish skin (=caecal cundum);

Cundum, in military slang, is used for a false scabbard for a sword; and for the oilskin case employed to protect the colors of a regiment.

Trivia on Cundums

Shortly before the Centennial Exposition of 1876 at Philadelphia, importation of contraceptives had been banned. Samples, nevertheless, came in with the exhibit of the Republic of France. The apparent breaking of the regulation was glossed over by labelling the cundums as "bouts americains" (American tips).

News photographers learned that cundums serve perfectly to protect their negatives during shipment. This led to possible misunderstood entries in expense accounts. If the item, "one gross cundums," occurred frequently, some question as to the activity, indicated might arise in the home office.

A newly imported English maid called the attention of her mistress to a cundum between the sheets. "Well", said the mistress, "don't you do anything like that in the old country?" "Yes',, replied the maid, "but we don't flay [2] them."

A recently bereaved American in Paris was purchasing a mourning outfit. Wishing a black hat (*chapeau noir*), his French failed and he said "capote noir" (black cundum). The young lady clerk who was waiting on him was thrilled at the American gentleman's beautiful sentiment.

In his London Journal (November 25, 1762) James Boswell wrote: "I picked up a girl in the Strand; went into a court with intention to enjoy her in armour. But she had none." By "armour." he meant cundum. March 25, 1763. "For the first time did I engage in armour, which I found but a dull satisfaction." May 17, 1763, "I picked up a fresh, agreeable young girl . . . and I took out my armour, but she begged that I might not put it on, as the sport was much pleasanter without it . . . "

The following limerick is not so good, in my opinion, as that quoted in the succeeding Essay, but it is distinguishable, and may be added for completeness.

There was a young man from Cape Horn
Who wished he had never been born,
And he wouldn't have been
If his father had seen
That the bloomin' French letter was torn.

---

[2] I use this term because the expression, 'skin the prick,' has a technical meaning quite apart from the point of this story.

REFLECTIONS UPON CUNDUMS EATEN BY BIRDS

The appended "Essay" was inspired by the finding of a large, nearly intact cundum in the stomach of a gull that had been collected in California. It was carefully suspended in a round-topped museum jar, which was covered with a paper sheath easily withdrawn. At the unveiling, before a small group in the Division of Birds, United States National Museum in the 1920's, I read the terminal essay and spoke substantially as follows:

When any great discovery occurs, due observance of the event should be made; that principle will serve as my reason for this unveiling. I suggest that the evidence of the present discovery be installed as an exhibit in the United States National Museum, and this jar and contents have been prepared for the purpose. Not the egotistical creature called man, but a bird is to be credited with this find—a fact that cannot fail to be of interest to the present audience of ornithologists. It is a gull recently taken at Hyperion, not far from Hollywood, California.

The object I am about to unveil is in the nature of personal apparel, but that is no objection from the standpoint of the National Museum, which has many such exhibits, including George Washington's pants and, for aught I know, Martha's panties. Here we have an authentic relic of a very famous man, hitherto unrepresented in the collections of the museum. Therefore, gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to unveil, and to present to the museum, a magnifiicent 10-inch cundum, undoubtedly once used by Rudolph Valentino.

AN ESSAY ON CUNDUMS

These are usually called cundrums in the U.S.A.; and although they were named after a military gentleman, there is nothing of the drum about them. They are said to have been invented by Colonel Cundum of the Guards in the days of Charles the Second, nearly 300 years ago. This teaches us that present day flappers and neckers are probably not so swift as they think they are.

When the flapper tucks in her purse the supply for the evening, of these 'capotes anglaise' as the French call them, or 'French lettera' as the English have it, little does she reflect upon various points of interest in the life history of cundums.

First and last, girls have a lot to do with cundums. It is said these useful implements are made almost exclusively by girls and it must be an inspiring occupation to them. The cundums, of course, are packed by girls, and later they are packed into girls. It must be a jolly job to box them, either one at a time in the park, or by the dozen and gross in the factory, dreaming the while of all their romantic activity.

Cundums are very popular in a large city like Washington, and it is said that merely by noting the frequency of them at the sewer outlets it is easy to tell when Congress is in session. Windrows more or less, of cundums are cast up along the historic shores of the Potomac, and little children finding them, gaily puff them up into balloons, and otherwise mouth and masticate them.

Nor do cundums escape the eyes of the birds. At least one crow examined by Biological Survey scientists had eaten a cundum, and lately a fine 10-inch one was found in a gull from the west—out where men are men, you know.

If big toes never slipped and cundums never ripped it would be a brighter and better world. A good reliable cundum can be used over and over again say those who have tried it. We do not know as we have not yet attained that plane of economy.

Persons who prate about their ancestry should bear in mind the following limerick:

There was a young man named Van Horn
Who wished he had never been born,
And he wouldn't have been
If his parents had seen
The place where the cundum was torn.

Cundums no doubt have prevented many a genius from seeing the light of this world. Happily not the writer of this essay.

Privately printed 1954—W. L. McAtee

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CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

NOTE ON ACCOMPANYING LEAFLETS

Existing, though by me unapproved, handicaps upon distribution of esoteric material, lead me to include with the essay. "On Codpieces", supplements to certain previous papers. Recipients of the present collection, not on the original lists, should not be inspired to request copies of the earlier articles, as all were in strictly limited editions, which were soon exhausted.

Though most of the writings cited went to individuals, copies were sent also to leading libraries, where it is hoped they have been preserved and may be consulted. Libraries listed as receiving "Nomina Abitera", and the esoteric supplements to dialect papers include those of:

Brown University, Providence, R. I.
University of California, Los Angeles.
University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass.
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul.
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
New York Public Library, New York, N.Y.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
University of Virginia, Charlottesville.
University of Wisconsin, Madison.
Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
The Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

W. L. McATEE
1954

SUPPLEMENT 4 ON GRANT COUNTY, INDIANA, DIALECT

By W. L. McAtee

Previous supplements, pertaining to the papers cited had the number of pages indicated:

Rural Dialect of Grant County, Indiana, in the Nineties, 1942. 10 pp.

Grant County, Indiana, Speech and Song, 1946: 1 (Folk Speech), 3 pp.; and 2 (Folk Verse), 6 pp.

Folk Speech

A lean hound for a long chase, saying, meaning a thin man for continued fornication; indeed, consumptives were supposed to be especially lecherous.

do it, phr., copulate. Any of them will do it when the right bull gets in the pasture.

breast-works, n., the female bosom.

cut a switch, phr. In horse-and-buggy days, a man taken short or pressed to urinate, might exclaim, "I've got to cut a switch", stop, stride off in the undergrowth, and relieve himself. A woman, if hard put to it, might herself sometime say, "Women have to cut switches too."

diarrhea. Descriptive term, "I've been squitterin' and squtterin'."

finger-fuck, v., masturbate a woman.

hell, n., extreme degree. "He's hell after women".

horn, n., (penis.) The older the buck the stiffer the horn"—an aphorism for which this writer has seen no illustration.

If the dog hadn't stopped to shit he might a-caught the rabbit.

listen to reason, phr. Said of a woman receptive to proposals for intercourse; "She's willin' to listen to reason."

mad-dog. In the juvenile challenge: "Spell mad-dog backwards."

masturbation. To discourage this boyhood practice in those days, the warning was that the loss of each drop of semen (we said gism) was equal to that much heart's blood. That sounded rather serious then but would not greatly impress the present generation, accustomed to hearing of pints of blood being taken for transfusions.

onry as cat-piss, simile, very ornery, incorrigible.

pee-hole, n., the slit, with underlying flap, in boys' breeches, which was the precursor of the fly in trousers for grown-ups.

promised land, n., destination of carn. cop. The last line of a hymn parody (of which I do not recall the remainder) was "slide right over in the promised land."

scare rats away, phr. "I'll put your picture up in the privy to scare the rats away", was a standard insult.

skin the prick: v. phr., retract the prepuce of the penis, exposing the glans. This evidence of maturity was sought by small boys in various ways, some sadistic, as by treating the organ with tobacco juice or even focussing a burning glass on the retarding fold of the prepuce.

stick up one's ass, phr. Of something desired but unobtainable, coveted, but refused, or as a gratuitous insult. "Tell him to stick his old job up his ass." "You can stick that up your ass."

suck my ass (balls, cock), phr., nasty retorts.

Three spans from the chin is the place to put it in. Repeated here here to correct a typographical error in the 1946 Supplement 2. A saying persisting from pioneer times.

tickle her tail, phr., covered anything from titillation to copulation. "She'll get he tail tickled now."

work ass off, phr., work hard, make a great effort. "I ain't a-goin' to work my ass off for him."

wrinkle, n. One of the labia of the female pudendum. "His little dink wouldn't get past the first wrinkle."

Folk Verse

Jesus, lover of my soul
Hang me on a hickory pole.
When the pole begins to bend
Put me on the other end.
If the pole begins to break
Take me down for Jesus' sake.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7;
All good children go to heaven;
When they get there, they will yell,
"All the rest can go to hell."

Diddle, ma diddle, ma dum dee;
The cat ran up the plum tree;
He ran so fast he skinned his ass;
Diddle, ma diddle, ma dum dee.

My girl lives in Baltimore;
Street cars run right by the door,
Brussels carpets on the floor,
Chippy, get your hair cut pompadour.
(Charles E. Rush)

Some people die of whiskey;
Some people die of beer;
Some people diabetes,
And others diarrhea.
But of all the damned diseases
That I've ever had or seen,
The worst, by God!
Is the drop, drop, drop
Of the god-damned gonorrhea.

There was a bawdy ditty about spurting gravy in baby's face, which I can not further recall. The underset has been invented to give the general idea; it embodies the unique concept of dialect being spoken by a foetus.

Putting his thing into the place,
Pa spurted gravy in baby's face.
Said baby, "Pa, you'd best take keer
Or I'll get you in 'bout twenty year."

SUPPLEMENT TO

Nomina Abitera, 1945

By W. L. McAtee

SUPPLEMENT TO NOMINA ABITERA—1945

By W. L. McATEE

Nomina Abitera, a pamphlet of 50 pages, with one half-tone plate, was privately printed, chiefly to put on record the unconventional part of a large collection of bird names, then being incorporated in an extensive manuscript, "American Bird Names, Their Histories and Meanings," which, however, has not yet been published. For good measure, less complete collections of similar names of other organisms were included, as well as a sampling of ribald geographic terms. The present supplement presents subsequent accumulations plus a few items on salacity, etc., in birds from scattered sources which the general reader might not see.

GEOGRAPHIC TERMS

BUTT, this term is applied to various mountains in the Great Smoky country (North Carolina and Tennessee). Molly's Butt was recorded in Nomina Abitera (1945:4) and I now have to add HOLY BUTT and RICH BUTT.

CUCKOLD TOWN, Staten Island, New York (George R. Stewart, Names on the Land, 1945: 243.)

CULPEPER. A County, town, and family name in Virginia which means arse-smart (Ave! FFV). "Peper" is merely an alternate form of "pepper"; and arse-smart is an old name for smart-weeds (*Polygonum*)—an understandable one to all who have tried them as bum-fodder.

CUNT CANYON (now Ladies' Canyon), Tahoe National Forest, California, F. P. Cronemiller.

D. P. GAP of maps of Great Smoky Mountains National Park is DOG PECKER GAP.

HAIRY DICK PRAIRIE, Florida Everglades. Explanation of this name came in the following extract: "unbranded calves and cattle, called 'mavericks' in the west, but for 150 years more or less, known as "hairydicks' in the Palmetto Country." Stetson Kennedy (Palmetto Country, New York, 1942. p. 223).

HORSE-COCK BUTTE, on U.S. Highway 85, between Cheyenne and Torrington, Wyoming. Don Bloch. In N. A. also as Hard-on Rock.

HORSE-COCK MOUNTAIN (later Horse Mountain), Modoc National Forest, California. F. P. Cronemiller.

HORSE-COCK STATION, once a railroad stop, is now Dickey Ranger Station on the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado. R. V. Minges.

HORSE-SHIT HOLLER. The head of Coldwater Canyon in the Angeles National Forest, California. Charles J. Lovell.

JACKASS BALLS (now Jackass Dome), Sierra National Forest, California. F. P. Cronemiller.

LITTLE BULL'S BALLS' BEND, Dixie National Forest, Washington County, Utah. G. D. Pickford.

LITTLE PETE'S HOLE. Manti National Forest, San Pete County, Utah. G. D. Pickford.

MAIDENHEAD, New Jersey (Stewart, Names on the Land, 1945:243.)

MAIDEN-HOLE LAKE. Colorado. Don Bloch.

MAIDEN LANE, San Francisco, California, ironically was in the old red-light district. F. P. Cronemiller.

MAMELON [Fr., nipple]. "Mr. Lesueur visited the Indian barrows [near Vincennes, Indiana], of which there are several in the plain, and which the French settlers call *Mamelon*." A. P. Maximilian (Travels in North America, [1832-1834] 1906, III:139).

MOLLY'S NIPPLE, Colorado. Philip F. Allan; ditto in Millard County, Utah. B. W. Allred.

MONKEY-TURD ROCK, Mendocino National Forest, California. Fred G. Renner.

NANCY'S NIPPLE. A round-topped hill southwest of Scott's Bluff, Nebraska; also called "Susie's Tit." Don Bloch.

NAN-TI-HA-LAH. Cherokee name meaning woman's bosom (Charles Lanman. Letters from the Allegheny Mountains, New York, 1859.); a range of mountains, a river valley, and a town in southwestern North Carolina are named from this word, which is variously spelled, e.g.: Nantahala, Nantahalah, and Nantihala. Pronunciation: Nanteyaleh (W. G. Ziegler and B. S. Grosscup, The Heart of the Alleghenies. 1883:80.)

NIPPLES, THE. Mountains in Colorado. Don Bloch.

NIPPLE TOP. A more prevalent name than the official "Dial Mountain." for one of the Adirondacks. Alfred B. Street (The Indian Pass, 1869:85).

PIDCOCK CREEK. Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

PIG-TURD BUTTE. Malheur National Forest, Harney County, Oregon. G. D. Pickford.

PISS-ANTS CREEK. A tributary of the White River in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Labelled Piceance Creek on available maps. Sent to me by Don Bloch.

PISS POT ISLAND in the Potomac River, so named on Fry and Jefferson's map of Virginia and Maryland, 1751 (dated 1775). Charles J. Lovell.

PISS POT MOUNTAIN (now abbreviated to Pot Mountain) is in the Clearwater National Forest, in Idaho. Elers Koch.

POOP-OUT HILL, in the San Gorgonio Wilderness area, San Bernardino National Forest, California. Charles J. Lovell.

PREACHER'S PRICK (later Preacher's Peak), a slender granite spire in the Sierra National Forest, California. F. P. Cronemiller.

PULL-AND-BE-DAMNED CREEK, tributary to Cooper River, South Carolina; the tortuous channel and strong tides make for arduous rowing. Nathaniel H. Bishop. (Voyage of the Paper Canoe . . . Edinburgh, 1878, p. 285).

RAGGED-ASS GULCH, Klamath National Forest, California.

RUMP (with some prefix). "a lofty mountain called the Camel's Hump, although (as Shakespeare says) the 'shepherds give it a grosser name', which answers very well in rhyme to the one here given, but not quite so euphonious to ears polite. [near Burlington, Vermont.] Charles A. Murray (Travels in North America . . . 1834 . . . 1836. London, 1839. I: 93).

SHEEP-SHIT NOSE. Millard County, Utah. B. W. Allred.

SHIT-ASS CREEK, bowdlerized to S. A. Creek on maps, is in the Manzano National Forest, Torrance County, New Mexico. G. D. Pickford.

SHIT CREEK, near Buffalo, South Dakota. B. W. Allred.

S. H. MOUNTAIN, Arizona, i.e., Shit-house mountain, from its shape. (Stewart, Names on the Land, 1945: 379).

SHITPOT BASIN (now Tranquil Basin), Payette National Forest, Idaho. F. P. Cronemiller.

SOAK-ASS CREEK, Raleigh County, West Virginia, now called Soak Creek, got its original name from someone's falling into it. Hamill Kenny (West Virginia Place Names, Piedmont, W. Va. 1945: 591.)

SQUAW-TIT, a peak near Missoula, Montana, is now Squaw Mountain, Elers Koch. There are numerous mountains having this name in the west.

STIFF PRICK, a mountain in Mineral County Montana. So called by prospectors and shortened to S.P. When a lady wanted to know what S.P. meant, it suddenly became St. Patrick's Peak. Elers Koch.

TICKLER'S COVE, Bonaventure Island, Quebec, a meeting place of Kittiwakes. P. A. Taverner. (See N. A. 1945: 38 for meaning of names of this bird).

TIT-TOP. Mountain in Colorado. Don Bloch.

WET-ASS CREEK (now Wet-Foot Creek), Payette National Forest, Idaho: F. P. Cronemiller. There is another of the same name (but altered to Weitus Creek) in the Clearwater National Forest of the same state. Elers Koch. Still another by cartographic euphemism has become Wetas Creek (Arizona, Fred G. Renner).

PLANT NAMES

Fungus Twat-Knot—The burn made on Englemann Spruce (*Picea pungens*) by the red-hot fungus. E. M. Hornibrook.

Day-Flower (*Commelina*)—In Curacao, Netherlands West Indies, a species is called in the Papiemento dialet. Wilhelmina sanke mango. Wilhelmina was the Dutch Queen, and the term translates as Wilhelmina mango ass. A. Wetmore.

Century Plants (*Agave*)—Caraho (penis), from their thick, erect, flowering and fruiting stalks, which are called caraho poles. Southwestern United States.

Male Orchis (*Orchis mascula*)—To the considerable list of names given in N. A., 1945: 9-10, may be added Johnny Cocks, which is in the New International Dictionary.

Pink Ladyslipper (*Cypripedium acaule*)—Bull-bag, from fancied resemblance of the flower to a scrotum. Southern New Jersey. J. K. Terres.

Kochia vestita. Fart-Weed—West desert of Utah. G. D. Pickford.

Arrow-leaved Tearthumb (*Polygonum sagittalum*)— Gratte cul, (Scratch-ass) Quebec. M. L. Fernald (Gray's Manual of Botany, 8th edition, 1950: 587).

Plume Poppy (*Bocconia cordata*)—Backhouse plant, from its being used as a screen for privies, southern New Jersey. Charles J. Lovell.

Queen's Delight, Queen's Root (*Stillingia spp.*), names recorded by P. A. Rydberg in his "Flora of the Prairies and Plains of Central North America." (1932: 515). Philip F. Allan informs me that the root is said to resemble male genitalia.

European Grape (*Vitis vinifera*)—John Ozell (Rabelais' Works, 1737, I: 255) notes the laxative quality of the white grape, called for that very reason Foirard (squitterer). Oxford English Dictionary.

Silverbell (*Halesia monticola*)—Pee-wood, rarely piss-wood, Great Smoky Mountains, North Carolina. The name tiss-wood of books, thus is probably an enphemism.

Bluets (*Houstonia caerulea*)—Pissabed, New Hampshire, Philip F. Allan.

Nannyberry, Nanny-Plum, Sheepberry (*Viburnum lentago* primarily, but applied also to *V. prunifolium*)—These names refer to a resemblance of the fruits (or blackhaws) to sheep turds. The latter are used in folk medicine to make nanny-tea or nanny-plum tea, subject of the following verses:

Nanny-Plum Tea

"The child is fretful and cross as can be,
Put on the kettle for nanny-plum tea!
When rhubarb and yarrow are no more use,
There is the last, best laxative juice.
"Go up the path through the clumped hardhack,
Where heart-shaped hooves have made a track,
Where one sheep after another comes,
And there you will find your nanny-plums!"
[Robert P. Tristam Coffin, Collected Poems, 1939, p. 220.]

According to F. W. Bradley (A Word List from South Carolina, Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc., 1950 (1951), 14: 59), sheep-dung tea was also used in that State. Thus a third species of *Viburnum* may be involved, namely *V. rufidulum*, which with the others mentioned completes a well-marked group of our nearctic species. The tea, Dean Bradley says is "A homemade prescription, made with the natural pills found in a sheep pasture. By way of euphemism the remedy was called *sheep suet*. Supposed to cure the measles, or to 'bring out' the measles."

Tetradymia spp.—Fart-weed, Utah. B. W. Allred.

INVERTEBRATES

Sea Urchin (*Echinoidea*)—Whore's egg, Labrador, H. J. Lewis; additional locality.

Diptera. "Bottle-arses is a small fly with a large breech; they are chiefly in the country; they will suck the blood where they fasten till they are full" Anon. (The importance of Jamaica to Great Britain . . . ? 1740: 48).

This reminds me of the late Witmer Stones's boyhood names for crab-spiders. They were one of the objects of the collecting propensities of this born naturalist, and in default of other names, he called them, partly after the shapes of their abdomens, by such titles as Billy Bottle-ass, Johnny Square-ass, etc.

White-faced Hornet (*Vespula maculata*)—White-arsed hornet, New Hampshire; striped-arsed hornet, Maine. (Hans Kurath et al., Handbook of the Linguistic Geography of New England, 1939: 16).

Sea-squirt (*Molgula manhattensis*) Dog-balls, New Jersey. Don Bloch.

FISHES

Lampreys, Petromyzonidae—In the Maquas (i.e. Mohawk) country are "lampreys, otherwise called pricks," David Peterson. (Short Historical and Journal Notes of Several Voyages, 1655. Trans. Coll. N.Y. Hist. Soc. Ser 2, 3(1), 1857.)

Catfishes (*Ameirus spp.*)—Turd-eaters, from feeding about sewage outlets: Southern New Jersey. J. K. Terres.

Sunfishes (*Eupomotis gibbosus* and *Lepomis auritus*)—Kibbec is recorded in fishes of New Hampshire, by R. G. Carpenter and H. R. Siegler (1947: 68, 69). This is derived from kiver=Cunti-Kiver. See. N. A. 1945, p. 20.

Doncella (*Iridio bivittatus*) Slippery Dick. (Jordan and Evermann, Fishes of Northern and Middle America, 1898, II: 1595)

Cusk Eel, (*Rissola marginata*).—Slippery Dick (i.e. penis). Don Bloch.

AMPHIBIANS

Worm salamanders (*Caeciliidae*)—Pierce Brodkorb put me on the trail of the following information and Norman Hartweg has supplied it. The name tapaculo (hide your ass), given to birds cocking their tails like wrens was noticed in N. A., 1945 (p. 41) can have another meaning of plug-ass. Now read Doctor Hartweg: There are two species of caecilians in southeastern Chiapas: *Gymnophis mexicanus* and *Gymnophis multiplicatus*. The natives do not distinguish between them, both being known as *tapaculo* or, infrequently *tapalcu*. The superstition held by these southern Indians is that the animal enters through the anus and eventually causes death by blocking the exit so that bowel movement is impossible. I was told to scrape away surface litter and to examine the ground closely for lurking tapaculos before evacuation . . . And, of course, all human endoparasites are the young of the tapaculo.

BIRDS

Horned Grebe (*Colymbus auritus*)—Arschfusz (arsefoot), from the far posterior exsertion of the legs. P. L. S. Muller (Vollstandige natursystem, 1773: 341).

Black-throated Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)—Same note (p. 343).

Man-o'-war-bird (*Fregata magnificens*)—Fallito (little penis). Alba, Aves Panama, 1946: 91.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)—Shypoke, Matamuskeet Wildlife Refuge, North Carolina. C. Cottam. Additional locality for this term, a variant of shitepoke. See 1945 edition.

Striped Heron (*Butorides striata*)—Shypook, British Guiana, J. F. M. Floyd (Avicultural Mag., Ser. 5, 10(5), 1945: 115.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)—Shikepoke, Phineas G. Goodrich (History of Wayne County, [Pennsylvania], 1880: 90); extension of range of this term; shit-across-the-creek, southern New Jersey. J. K. Terres. It was said if the bird ate a frog on one side of a creek and flew, it would shit it out before reaching the other side; again this term might refer to the apparent length of heron excrements—enough in this case to span a creek.

Herons. Shitepoke. Variant additional to those given in N. A., 1945, p. 25: Shite-pook, Percy Taverner (The Museum, Albion, N.Y. 1896, II: 109).

Shitepoke. There is a discussion and list of variants of this name in N. A. 1945, p. 25; and there are some valid entries elsewhere in this supplement. Certain examples, somewhat suspect because not applied to herons, include: Shikepoke, the long-billed curlew (*Numenius americanus*), Swift Current, Saskatchewan, S. F. Leach; shitepoke, the sandhill crane (*Grus canadeusis*), Wyoming Wild Life (1942, 7: 21); shitepoke, the belted kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*), Jacob, Illinois, F. W. Arbiter; and shypoke, the whooping crane (*Grus americana*), Berens River, Manitoba. C. Calcraft; shitepoke, the American coot (*Fulica americana*), Yorkton, Saskatchewan, A. J. Haddon.

American Merganser (*Mergus americanus*)—Stud, Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee.

Agami (*Psophia crepitaus*)—Also called trumpeter, this bird was named by Pierre Barrere in 1745 (Ornithologiae Specimen Novum, pp. 62-63.) The generic name is from a Greek term meaning an inarticulate sound, and the specific epithet from Latin, signifying a chattering noise. Barrere had been told that its crepitant voice was returned through its anus, and, rather ungallantly, he gave the bird the vernacular name, Petteuse, i.e., a farter of the feminine gender. Barrere, being a pre-Linnanean author, his names were not accepted in technical nomenclature, but this one was adopted without change by Linnaeus (Systema Naturae, 1758, p. 154), who remarked *"respondet per anum,"* a paraphrase of the original comment.

These strange statements, doubtless based on native tradition, were exploded by P. S. Pallas in 1766 (Miscellanea Zoologica, VII, p. 68; the edition seen by me being of 1778). This author said in substance: The raucous notes, simulating those of displaying doves, primarily from the mouth, and twice or thrice repeated, are echoed by a concealed abdominal cavity. They are not emitted from the anus but are internal and formed of air.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)—Alsaculito (little hoist-ass), Chiapas, Mexico, Pierce Brodkorb; ass-dip, Kentucky mountains, Josiah H. Combs; bob-ass, Newfoundland, Labrador, Stanley C. Arthur; teeter-ass, Colorado, F. B. Johnson. Extension of range of last two terms as given in N. A., 1945: 34-35. Also French:

Alouette branle-cul (shake-tail lark); branle-cul (shake-tail); leve-cul (hoist-tail). Quebec, Raymond Cayouette.

Willett (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*)—Big pant-ass, coastal North Carolina, C. Cottam. The much smaller spotted sandpiper is commonly called "pant-ass"; pant has the meaning of "to throb", in reference to the constant tail-bobbing of the bird.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)—Arcahuete, James Bond (Birds of the West Indies, 1936: 125), E. G. Holt suggests that this probably should be alachuete=pimp, or procurer); A. Wetmore and B. H. Swates (Birds of Haiti, etc., 1931: 169 record that Descourtilz (1809) says "that its local name of pet-pet is given in imitation of its cry". Pet is a French term for fart, of which pete-pete for the same bird, by James Bond (op. cit. p. 125) seems to be only a modification. Belle Pete of Wetmore and Swales (op. cit., p. 168) may be a related term or may mean handsome Peter, numerous water birds being given the name, "Peter", from their apparently walking on the water.

Shore birds. To make a long story short, all of these birds from the size of the lesser yellowlegs down are called putilla=little whore, in Puerto Rico, possibly from the tail-wagging of some of them.

Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)—Additional variants of the common name: tick-i-lace and ticklass. Wilfred Templeman.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)—Wm. W. Neeley of Chester, S. C., submitted a name heard in that vicinity which he could not explain, which was "love-swindle." Departing for the prevailing policy of Nomina Abitera, I offer a hypothesis. The barn owl has been credited with a cry like that of a colored woman through whose throat is being drawn a long, thin, dull knife—the last agonized shriek of a despairing soul. May we not speculate that this hair-raising scream has startled lovers out of near consummation often enough to fasten on the bird the name of "love-swindle."

Whip-poor Will (*Antrostomus vociferus*)—The late Frank G. Speck recorded the Penobscot Indian name of this bird as wipo'-lessu (Univ. Penn. Bul. 21 (18), 1921, p. 362). Although phonetic, the word has a meaning, "which on account of its obscenity is unfortunately barred from further discussion" (loc. cit.). Professor Speck in a private memorandum noted root words as: "li'polin" (to masturbate) and li' polessu" (masturbating cunting).

Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) Bigre (i.e. bougre=sodomist), Nova Scotia, A. C. Smith (Ganong, W. F. Proc. and Trans. Roy. Soc. Canada. Ser. 3, III (II) 1909: 228); chaird-maringouins (shitter of mosquitoes), Megantic County, Quebec; chie-maringouins (shit mosquitos), Dorchester County, Quebec, Raymond Cayouette; dagowend'us (they fart), Cayuga Indians (H. M. Deardorf ms. 1945, *fide* A. Wetmore); Farzvoggel, (fart-bird) Luftfarzer (sky farter), W. F. Rupp (Pennsylvania Society, Proc. and Addresses, 1946: 154); *pieru lintu* (fart bird), Finnish, Minnesota, Philip F. Allan.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)—Birdlimer, Columbia, South Carolina, E. C. L. Adams. Presumably as one conspicuous in producing bird lime or excrement. White-ass (the lower back and rump are white), Clinch River Valley, Tennessee. Louis B. Kalter.

Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris*)—Cow-dung bird; sometimes builds its nest on cow-chips. Bessie M. Reid, Port Arthur, Texas.

Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus unicolor*)—Teeter-ass, Colorado, F. R. Johnson. Extension of range of this term as noted in N. A.

Catbird (*Dunetella carolineusis*)—Merle a derriere roux (a bird like the European blackbird, hence our robin, with red posterior); the undertail coverts are chestnut. Name, not the explanation, in Sagra, Ramon' "Historia . . . natural de . . . Cuba" (1839: 51).

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*)—Cul-blanc a la poitrine jaune (white-rump with yellow breast), Mark Catesby (Nat. Hist. Carolina, 1731, I: 50).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)—Geilsdreck Schpatze (horse-dung sparrow), Wm. J. Rupp (Pennsylvania Soc., Proc. and Addresses, 1946, 52: 213); shit-bird, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Charles J. Lovell, from its feeding among horse dung.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) Cuckold, Elliott Coues (Key to North American Birds, 1887, p. 402). The young are brought up in the nests of other birds.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*)—Pisseux (Fr., pisser, fem.), petit pisseaux (Fr., little pisser, fem.), pisson (Fr., pisser, mas.); Montmagny, Levis, Quebec, and Dorchester Counties, Quebec. Raymond Cayouette.

Red-eyed Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*)—Shit-bird from resemblance to those words of the first two notes of the bird's song. Southern New Jersey. J. K. Terres.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)—Frederic-cache-ton-cul (Frederick-hide-your-ass), from the song, which is rendered: "Cache ton cul, Frederic, Frederic, Frederic." Quebec. Raymond Cayouette.

Salacity (etc.) in Birds

The original edition of "Nomina Abitera" (1945) contained notes on salacity in the Amorous Titmouse (apparently an apocryphal bird), and the House Sparrow. Herewith is additional material on the latter, and on four other, species.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)—Philip H. Gosse quotes Henry Hill to the effect that: "There is a salacious predilection of the Aura Vulture for the black hen of the poultry-yard, and the black turkey . . . It is said that the vulture on these occasions makes its amorous attack with an eagerness assuming the character of an ungovernable fury. Fear overcomes the hen, and the sudden assualt terminates in an embrace, from which she escapes, only to linger and die in a very short time. A sort of *carcinoma uteri* is the consequence." (Birds of Jamaica, 1847, p. 8.)

Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*)—In 1934, George C. Girard, then making an intensive study of this species in Wyoming, told me that, copulation not being observed, there was a popular belief that the bird spawned after the manner of fishes. For a printed reference to the matter, see Emerson Stringham, Wyoming's Devil's Tower . . . Madison, Wisconsin, 1947, p. 13.

European Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)—Bartholomaeus Anglicus (fl. 1250) wrote of this species: it "is an unclean bird, for strong liking for lechery forgetteth the sex and the distinction of male and female." (L. R. W. Loyd, Bird Facts and Fallacies, 1847, p. 234).

European Quail (*Coturnix communis*)—"I apprehend that 'chaud comme une caille' [hot as a quail], alludes to the very remarkable salaciousness of this bird, and not to the constant heat of its body." Daines Barrington (Trans. Lond. Phil. Soc. 1771, 62: 274).

Bob-White (*Colinus virginianus*)—Dr. John Brickell (The Natural History of North Carolina. Originally published, 1737. Raleigh, N. C., reprint, 1911 p. 185) who calls the species, partridge, says: "It is a very libidinous bird, for they will seem to couple, with their own image in a glass:"

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)—In the 1945 edition, I should have quoted the subjoined poem by my friend, the late Doctor "Gene" Murphy. I am sure that he would have approved just as he did the use of his verses on "The Purple Gallinule" which were reproduced on page 33.

A FEW WORDS OF COMFORT FOR THE MALIGNED ENGLISH SPARROW

Friend Sparrow: The prurient
Dislike you
Not that you are hoodlum and gangster
They tolerate them.
But that your strutting and sinning
Irritates them
They feel that you have not
The remotest idea
Of the time and place
For the consummation
Of Love affairs
Your technique
Affronts them.
Yet were they granted
For ninety days
In the Summertime
The same gonadal
Largesse and beneficence
Which is vouchsafed you—
They would no longer upbraid you,
They would believe again
In Santa Claus.
And no serious work
Would be done
Whatever.

[Eugene Edmund Murphey, Wings at Dusk, 1939, p. 17.]

A disturbing thought was put forth by the Elizabethan author, Thomas Nash, about 1595. It was:

"The sparrow for his
lecherie liveth but a yeere."

POSTSCRIPT

I have written many scientific papers, in some of which progress was made toward the scientist's goal: extension of the bounds of knowledge. But I take as much satisfaction in such undertakings as Nomina Abitera (1945) and the present supplement because they are part of the battle that must always be waged against obscurantists, who would restrict the domain of language, and hypocrites who pretend that certain classes of words do not exist. My maximum uncompliments to cartographers who bowdlerize, and to lexicographers who ignore, some of the most interesting parts of the language of the people.

Privately printed 1954—W. L. McAtee

VERBAL MISCELLANY

By W. L. McATEE

Special vocabularies will be needed as long as dictionaries avoid the so-called "obscene", which so often is connected with the most indispensable feature of human life, that is, reproduction, and which otherwise is of interest to more potential readers than is any comparable fraction of the words to which they restrict themselves. None of the terms in the senses indicated below are in the Oxford English Dictionary or the New International Dictionary except "pecker" and that not in its original genital significance.

bollock: v. The noun, when it gets into print, is usually ballock; but folk pronounciation of it is apt to be more like that of the verb cited. The noun is employed almost exclusively in the plural, and where I grew up (Grant County, Indiana), was pronounced bollux, and was one of several words ending in an "x"(or if you prefer "cks") sound, almost all of which had derogatory or evil significance.

Now as to the verb "bollock," we read in the work of a French traveller (1786, commenting on American manners: in their combats, unless specially precluded, they are admitted "to bite, b-ll-ck, and goudge." (F. J. Chastellux, Travels in North America, translated by George Grieve, 1787: 192-193).

What bollocking was, is more explicitly revealed in a book by C. W. Janson (Stranger in America, 1807:304), as follows: "But what is worse than all, these wretches in their combat endeavour to their utmost to tear out each other's testicles. Four or five instances came within my own observation, as I passed through Maryland and Virginia, of men being confined in their beds from injuries which they had received of this nature in a fight. In the Carolinas and Georgia, I have been credibly assured, that the people are still more depraved in this respect than in Virginia." That this mode of fighting has a long history is shown by a passage in Deuteronomy. "He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his private member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord" (xxiii:-1). And further that the women mixed up in it. "When men strive together one with another, and the wife of the one draweth near for to deliver her husband out of the hand of him that smiteth him, and putteth forth her hand, and taketh him by the secrets: Then thou shalt cut off her hand, thine

eye shall not pity her." (xxv: 11-12). [These examples were turned over to me by Dr. M. M. Matthews, he knowing full well they could not make the pages of the Dictionary of Americanisms.]

bull-prick: n., A Burley bar for making holes in soft earth, Colorado. R. V. Minges.

come: v. In supplement 1 (Grant County, Indiana, Speech and Song, 1946: 1), I commented on the use of this verb as meaning to experience sexual orgasm. An additional instance is in the tale of a woman whose partner died in the act. Said she in describing the circumstance:" I thought he was a-comin' but it seems he was a-goin'."

copronymus: n., name of a turd. Because he compelled monks and nuns to marry, this endearing epithet was applied to the Byzantine Emperor, Constantine V (740-775 A.D.)

dill-berry, dingle-berry: n., ball of feces adhering to hair about the human anus; the first from Alabama (E. G. Holt) and the second from Wisconsin (H. L. Stoddard). It is almost inconceivable that any people have been so filthy "in our time", but the still living witnesses are unimpeachable.

dress: v. Direct the genitalia into one of the trouser legs "Right, or left dress?" was a question put to me by a tailor as he was measuring me, c. 1904, in Bloomington, Indiana.

grass: v., to copulate, of humans. "Not much is said about who is grassing whom." Clarence M. Webster (Town Meeting Country, 1945: 239)." That meant putting on the grass, or in an expression of an earlier day, giving a green gown. The telltale stains have served as giveaways at many a picnic or camp meeting. Let us now sing the Doxology.

high-life: n. Carbon bisulphide as put into the fundament of a horse to make it "buck" at a rodeo. Called also a hokey-pokey, rousin' oil, and squat-drops; the first two in Wyoming; the last two in Arkansas. Confer: "feague" in Francis Grose's "A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue" (1785, p. 61); and "turpentine" in my supplement to "Rural Dialect of Grant County, Indiana, in the Nineties" (1942. p. 10.) How we depart from the teaching of Buddha, "Be kind to all that lives."

knackers: n., testicles, Scotland, J. R. Malloch.

lead in your pencil," "This will put; saying about food or drink of supposed aphrodisaic effect.

lubricate: v., "last night I met with a monstrous big whore in the Strand, whom I had a great curiosity to lubricate, as the saying is." James Boswell, London Journal, April 13, 1763.

pecker: n., spirits, courage. This meaning, so different from the ordinary American colloqualism for penis, was unknown to me at a time when I heard in the home of Albert Mann (diatomist, 1853-1935), and in the presence of his wife, the saying, "Keep your pecker up", and was correspondingly "paralyzed." Dr. Mann afterward explained that it was a familiar Scotch expression.

prag: v., copulate, Scotland, J. R. Malloch; not surprising as the dictionary admits prag: n., meaning pin, and prag; v., meaning cram.

prod: n., penis, same place and authority.

well-hung: adj. Of a male with notably large genitalia.

yucky: adj., highly pleasurable as in sexual intercourse, about ready to "go off." "Is it yucky yet?" Scotland, J. R. Malloch.

Similes and Proverbial Sayings

Said the old maid after a week of married life, "I'm sore but satisfied."

A happy drunk and a bawdied cunt both look bad but are feeling fine.

A stiff prick has no conscience.

Dry as an old maid's nipple.

Tom Jones would fuck anything that was hot and hollow.
[All of these from F. E. L. Beal of Lunenberg, Massachusetts.]

Cold as the love of an elderly whore.
[From Ned Hollister of Delavan, Wisconsin.]

Every man is born between piss and dung.
[A. K. Fisher of Sing-Sing, New York.]

Sweating like a June Bride.

Sweating like a nigger at a love-feast.
[Heard at Washington, D. C., so probably of Maryland origin.]

The older the buck the stiffer the horn.
General. [Though widely distributed, this aphorism would seem but infrequently verified in real life.]

An extemporaneous piece of wit that deserves to go with these time-proved *bon mots,* was evoked by the very bustiferous appearance of a small woman in a burlesque show. Said my friend, Philip F. Allan, "That's the first time I ever saw a bushel of anything in a peck measure."

Privately printed 1954—W. L. McAtee

W. L. McATEE

+ his printed booklets

W. L. McAtee, L.C. MS. D364 / 6 (envelope):

ADVICE TO HUSBANDS

By an Old Stager

What may be done keeping in view health and the fear of God.

Chapter V

Proper occasions for coupling.

1. On Saturday nights, as a matter of course, for you can lie abed late Sunday mornings; and then
2. On Sunday mornings, for lying abed is favorable to sweet dalliance.
3. On the anniversary of the day you proposed to her.
4. On the anniversary of your wedding day; thus you renew your youth.
5. When you receive a wedding announcement or attend a wedding; take advantage of the powers of suggestion.
6. When you have attended a ballet or the like; and the basking in feminine warmth and beauty has inspired you for valiant deeds.
7. After a ball; for much the same reason.
8. Just before you depart on a journey and
9. The night you return; make her glad to see you.
10. Any nights you are prone to lie awake; one must do something.
11. When she has returned from consoling a young widow; give her the opportunity to show that she is glad she still has a husband.
12. When you have witnessed a touching passage between lovers.
13. Dedicate each new bed or part thereof; each new house or bedchamber therein.
14. On her birthday; or yours.
15. On holidays, saints' days and festivals; would there were more.
16. Other inspirations failing, read aloud to her, a few tales from Balzac or the Arabian Nights; these seldom fail to have the desired effect.

Of course there are three or four days each month that are unavailable; but with this exception, when none of the above-mentioned occasions coincide with your desire, and provided further that stimulants and drugs are shunned, always let Nature take her course.

1917.

McAtee ms. (L.C.) D.364

(env.3): A Riddle: What are they that invite the closest contact, What are they that compel amorous attack, yet repel -- an impregnable wall? . . . naught but the firm, jutting mounds of the breast, virginally firm, they attract, yet repel. (1912).

Shall I never see thee more, nut brown maid of old Lahore
Never in thy arms entwine, gaze in wondrous eyes of thine
Never sip a lover's wine, from full lips that caress mine
Shall we never, nevermore love as in the days of yore?

Perfect lover, my heart core, supple girl of old Lahore
How amazed me her love lore, drawn from all the ages store
No love ever better wore, its variety could not bore
She was the ideal whore, nutbrown maid of old Lahore. (1914). [Lim]

La Pubertée. Expurgated title: The Damosel, or "Where the brook and river meet." The world seems new And it can't be true This is the me That used to be [&c. Verses 5-6 noted: "For expurgated edition, leave these out":] My bodice ripples Oer my nipples My dress they crowd Oh I'm so proud. My waist's so slim So round and trim. My legs so pretty To hide were pity. (1917).

MASO.

W. L. McAtee, "Going Home," L.C. ms. D.364, envelope 3:

~~COMING~~ GOING HOME (Title: Coming Home struck through)

If I am to be strangled,
Let it be in a woman's arms, [handwriting appears to say: anus!]
For in ~~thier~~ their usual gracious circling
I have been what time the kindly gods allowed,
Since life began.

If I am to be smothered,
Let it be by a woman's thighs,
My face in her pubic hair
And in my nostrils that woman fragrance
Of all most grateful.

If my head is to be crushed
Let it fall on a woman's breast,
Haven of rest from all life's storms,
That my dying bed, and I'll lay me down
Like a lover.

Born of a woman's thighs,
Nursed at a woman's breast,
Mothered, loved, possessed in women's arms,
I'd false it all did I not yearn for woman flesh,
With my last yearning.

(1932)

Conceived on an auto trip with F[lorence] W., March 26,
sketched that evening; finished in bed 2:30 - 3:30 a.m.,
April 2, 1932.

W. L. McAtee

"Unpublished prose and poetry" (collected 1944)

ms. division, Library of Congress, D.364 (Accession 7589)

9 envelopes in 2 ms. boxes.

Accession draft notes: "Collection of poetry in 9 envelopes. This group of the papers will be subject to rigid library restrictions. No publicity will be given to the material because of the nature of the poetry." Oct. 4, 1944.

Boxes are marked: "Not Open To Public. RESTRICTED."

Mostly written in Virginia and Washington D.C., 1912-40

W. L. McAtee ms. L.C.: D.364 envelope 2: "Supplements to Rabelais"
1921-1938.

The writer has enjoyed Rabelais and has entertained ideas of supplementing the Pantagruelian discourses. Three attempts are attached:

Panurge and Faucheux discourse on carn. cop.	(Maywood, Va.	1921)
Justice for M. Cornecon	(D.C.,	1938)
Vin du chat	(D.C.,	1938)

W. L. McAtee, 1944

A CHAPTER AFTER RABELAIS

Panurge and Faucheux discourse on carn. cop.

Faucheux or Daddy-long-legs, so named from his build, was an acquaintance Panurge had picked up in Paris. So alike in roguery were the two that they came to enjoy each other's society very much and loved to compare notes on every phase of their varied experiences. "As you know," quoth Panurge, on the present occasion, "I travelled in my younger days far and wide, and can remember nothing better about my experiences than what I taught or was taught among the ladies, from the sturdy blondes of Scandinavia, to the black-eyed dearlings of Spain, and from the almond-eyed Chinoise to the supple brown girls of the Sud." "What better to recall?" answered Faucheux, "I'll wager you lechered it rampantly, rambunctiously, as a bull in his first season, or as a ram in a fold of virgin ewes." "Maybe so, maybe so," replied Panurge, "but what I thot to tell you of just now was a book I read in

Calcutta, called in Sanskrit, "Ananga-Ranga," and in Latin "Ars Amoris Indica." In it is everything about the signs and language of love, classification of women and men as to their amatory capacities, a hundred aphrodisiacs, but best of all a full discourse on what Solomon called the way of a man with a maid.

The Hindus certainly have worked this up to a fine art. Congress is first classified in ~~x~~ five great divisions, of which the first, about the only one we think of, ~~ix~~ that with the woman lying on her back, has eleven subdivisions, and so it goes with the other sorts and sub-sorts.

One they call "The leap of the goat," another "Splitting the mango," and others, "The stork dance," "The Cow posture," and "The Elephant posture." Some of them no Christian can endure no matter how earnestly he tries. Each of the varieties was capable of various changes by being performed in different modes. That is to say, he might be active, she passive, or vice versa; both active; it could be pursued to the orgasm or cut short. It could be done ~~more or less dressed~~, in private or in the presence of other wives, servants, musicians and the like." "Egad," burst in Faucheux, "I shouldn't like that." "It's all in the custom," continued the philosophical Panurge, "not only did they vary it in the ways I have said, but as follows, and to wit: inspired with wine or not, with vast use of perfumes or not, with one or both of the parties well anointed with oil or not, in a howdah (the motion of the elephant contributing wonderfully to the effect; in a bull-cart, for similar reasons; by day or by night or the quarters thereof, indoors or out, in water or out , with more or less clothes or naked." Perhaps

again I have forgotten something, but I have said enough to show how much thot the Hindoos have given to this important matter, and how ordered and well calculated are their amusements. All that I have said, mind you, refers to the deed of kind, and does not include any such Gallic improvements as 'la langue fourrée', or 'soixante neuf.' "

"All that is well enough," rejoined Long-legs, "but I heard no mention of a method, which, to my view, is more thrilling and searching in its ecstacies than any." "And that?" from Panurge. "Is perhaps difficult for short-legs like yourself but very fine for me. Long as I am I prefer a short woman and Sir Priapus being ready (*Semper paratus* is his motto), I pick her up and set her down over his helm, like a snuffer on a candle. As he is long, to correspond to his master, he penetrates very far indeed and as she feels this rigid sword working into her very vitals she tries to climb up, the desperate clambering and clasping only makes Sir Pripaus the more rigid and proud and encourages him to hold his head higher than ever before. At first she usually cries 'Let me down, let my feet touch the floor,' but I am deaf to such pleas and merely settle her on again till Don ~~XXXXXX~~ Priapus feels his head once more in so soft and warm a situation as would melt the heart of any saint. Of course she climbs and scrambles again and I assure you that the clipping of her arms round my waist is a great pleasure and the pressure of her soft breasts against my belly conveys to my inner organs a heat that fairly makes them glow. [(Addit., 1944:) Now and then I pause to make a sign of the cross as a benediction on our efforts.] This might be termed hanging copulation and I

heard no mention of it in your Hindoo ceremonies. But the best is yet to come; when she is reconciled more or less to the suspended act (and the active clambering and so on produced a rough rubbing that soon makes her so), I take her by an arm and leg and give her a slow turn like a wheel on its axle. As you can imagine from the slope and rigidity of my member, this motion produces a wonderful friction on the parts external and a great twisting and torsion of the parts internal. Generally she shrieks, 'Oh you are killing me,' but my dear Panurge, that is mere hyperbole, the pleasure is so great. After a short rest I turn her again and later some more, now she rarely does more than moan 'Oh Faucheux, Faucheux,' but the moaning only indicates pleasure of a soul-searching kind. On one of the turns, sooner or later, the crisis comes, and so greatly has she been tried that she faints away into the seventh heaven of delight. Then for my own satisfaction I spin her more rapidly until my spermaries, seed-receptacles, cods, and testicles are emptied and pumped dry. That accomplished, I lay her aside to drain. After a rest of about a week, back she comes and confesses, 'Each time it seems will be the death of me, but even so, e'en must I have it.' Now Panurge," he concluded, "is there anything in your Hindoo mysteries about such twirling and twiddling, screwing and diddling as I have described?"

"No," admitted Panurge," once I was greatly impressed with the Hindoos, but now I am satisfied they are not really a cultured race."

Feb. 27, 1921

JUSTICE FOR M. CORNECON

THE famed Bishop of Narbonne and Montpellier had emptied many a bottle during their duscussion of doctrine -- in truth a dry subject. At length their talk was wearisome to the attending priests and clerks who shared the aural but not the palatal proceedings. One by one they fell asleep -- all but Messer Francois whose lively wits left him ever awake. So it was that only he heard and recorded the sole ~~EHE~~ bit of entertaining ~~discussion~~ discourse there was in the whole gusty parley.

The worthy churchmen came, as usual, to the excoriation of sects as lamentable excresences on the fair body of the church. In the midst of this argument the reverend prelate of Montpellier was reminded of a certain case heard by a celebrated magistrate. It was that of a Madame Cornecon who complained to the judge that overuse by her husband had produced ~~xx~~ corns on her private parts, which annoyed and distressed her exceedingly.

Questioned as to this alleged excess of venery, the good man replied, "It may be so, as for lack of a better place, I do a good deal of work there, but, your Honor, I am not responsible for the whole of the cornefied condition. There are scaly corns that make me suspect some Breton fisherman, and tufted, wooly, and prickly ones, I fear almost to mention -- they may come from the Evil One himself. There are black ones that indicate traffic with a Moor, but what can I say about the yellow, and green, and purple ones? Your Honor," he continued, apparently launching into a freshly

inspired harangue, "there are as many corns in that place as there are fleas on a fiddler's bitch; I know I didn't make 'em all."

"Enough," interrupted the jusktice, "you are right my son, you cannot be held responsible for the entire sad plight of your wife's caravansary. Action dismissed."

"So it is," argued the noble churchman, "with the disfiguring sects in the Church; it is not Christ who causes them, but intruders."

1937 - 1938.

Supplementary chapter to
The Fifth Book of Pantagruel
Island of the Holy Bottle
(or) fountain from which a drink was
whatever one fancied it;

VIN DU CHAT

"All this chitchat," finally remarked Pantagruel, "and nothing on my favorite subject of shitting. But perhaps you, Panurge, and you Friar Jean, and the others have purposefully refrained, to leave me a clear field. If that be so, I stand obliged, for I have been itching to tell you of the time I drenched a cat with castor oil."

"The cat had been going around stiff-legged with his belly tucked in so I deemed he needed some medicine. Tollevant, the village pharmacist advised Oleum Ricini and sold me a pint. On the principle that if a little medicine is a good thing, a lot of it is better,

I gave the cat the whole pint although I had the devil's own time getting all of it in."

"Still that's a mere detail, the results are what you want to know. It was not long before the cat began to discharge his burden, or to use just the right word, to squirt. He squirted here, he squirted there, he squirted almost everywhere. It seemed in fact that my gardmn was about to suffer a deluge, in quantity if not in kind like that which our revered forefather Noah so furtunately survived.

"The fragrance of the long pent-up feces was nothing mild and it attracted cats from the neighborhood, far and wide. The squirting cat in the garden was too busy to observe the ceremonies normally incident to defecation in the cat world. At once the visitors saw what was wrong and began to dig the holes which my poor Tom could no longer dig for himself. They dug them and when they had been duly squirted in covered them over; in a trice the matter was so ordered that a cat surveyor led the way marking spots at appropriate intervals. He was followed by a squad of diggers, they by the now weaking [stet] Tom, and Tom in turn by the coverers. Never was any operation more neat and business-like. Eventually Tom needed ~~the~~ support and two burly cats detached from the crew of workers performed that office. Nature, stimulated by castor oil, so racked poor Tom that in making a turn at the end of a row, in one grand explosion of the inner force, he turned completely inside out.

"Some call the castor bean plant, Palma Christi, or Christ's palm, but in this case, it had no ressurective power. There also

seemed to be nothing in cat lore that would help Tom, so he was soon buried. After many farewell sniffs at the richly fertilized soil, the grimalkin host departed. "I have said the place was well fertilized and so it proved. The grapes I planted there yielded beyond expectation and the wine made from [them] had body, and aroma unsurpassed. I had nearly said an unctuousness, or smoothness in going down, peculiar to itself, tracing back to that Oleum Ricini, but I would not offend your tastes.

"No doubt this marvellous Bottle that we have already so thoroughly tested can supply us with some similar wine. So Bacbuc, out of your great kindness, give us a round of Vin du Chat."

1938.

[On the back of the first of these skits, on carnal copulation, the following note:

"I read this to the Appleton Group at an A.V.N. meeting. Thereafter Hoyes Lloyd sometimes referred to me as "a second," or "The American Rabelais." I might have been. Attached are further samples."

!!!

W. L. McAtee: "Ten Tales," 1912-1918, L.C. ms. D.364, envelope 4:

A PLAGUE OF THE PLAGUES

(1914)

Hard by the ancient city of Tarc lay a vast marsh. Among the multitude of creatures which dwelled therein was a small weasel-like animal, which lived mainly by the sucking of blood. This animal was known by the name marsike. It was so tiny, hardly bigger than a finger, that one could scarce credit accounts of the murderous deeds by which it gained its livelihood. The animal was as quick as a flash of light, however, and no efforts of its prey could ward it off. The marsike had long jaws beset with the sharpest of teeth which quickly gashed their way in to the blood of its victims. It was wont to cut the throats of the small beasts and wildfowl of the marsh, but occasionally wandered out to prey on the smaller domestic animals. So bloodthirsty was the marsike that it often accounted for scores of victims in a day.

Ordinarily the marsike kept to the marshes; it was known to the people but was not an object of concern. At the time this writing attempts to describe, however, for some mysterious reason the marsike tribe had increased to an innumerable horde.

The marshes no longer would contain them, and they swarmed over the whole land, and ran thru dwellings with the utmost freedom. At first they were welcomed for they swept the mice and rats before them like chaff before the wind. This prey did not satisfy them long, however, and in their craze for blood they adopted new habits which soon assumed a terrible import. They attacked people.

As already has been noted, the marsike was exceedingly active, and quick almost beyond belief. The slow movements of man were no defense against it. The animals mouth was so small that it could reach the coveted supply of blood at only a very few places but it found these at once.

In Taro in times of peace, both men and women wore skirts, the former short and the latter longer kirtles. These habiliments gave the marsike perfect freedom of attack. In a second it would run up a man's leg, clamp its jaws viciously on the upper part of the scrotum, and with a few champs secure the copious supply of blood for which it was so eager. Imagine the terror and despair of the victim, at this sudden striking at the very seat of ~~mxh~~ manhood [struck over: of this greatest source of pleasure]. Sometimes virility was wholly lost, again after some months the normal powers were recovered. The marsike could be killed by a squeeze of the hand, but it struck so swiftly and the physical pain and mental consternation of the victim were so great, that the ma~~x~~levolent little creature always had inflicted serious damage before its victim could act.

The opposite sex was not spared, rather th~~eir~~ plight of the women was worse than that of the men. The marsike in a flash would penetrate the vagina and bite madly at the neck of the uterus. The pain was great and the fright of the attacked greater, so that the pestilential little beast never left or was removed until much harm had been done. Naturally, in such cases the marsike was harder to reach, and in pulling it out, further lacerations were caused as they held on doggedly.

It can well be appreciated that these doings in the region of Taro, soon produced a state of acute panic. Procreation seemed doomed. The wisest councillors in the nation were summoned together to devise means of freeing the people from the terrible scourge. After much deliberation they issued the following decree: that all persons wear complete armor from the waist down. This was put into effect at once, and for the first time in Taro women wore armor.

This precaution served merely for defense. The situation was hardly remedied. The anguish and distress that were caused by this wholesale boxing up of genitals may well be imagined. Moreover not a ray of hope brightened the future. Must it be admitted that Taroan genitals were to remain in quarantine indefinitely? No, that could not be endured; something must be done to lessen the number of marsikes.

The council therefore further decreed that certain persons should serve as traps for the marsikes. The men were clad in armor as usual, over which was worn loose leggings, completely lined with upwardly projecting needles. The leggings gave the marsikes a chance to climb, but the needles prevented escape. Many were killed in this way, but the device failed to some extent because the armor shutting off the fleshy smell deterred the animals' attacks. What was needed was a human-baited trap and the women being particularly adapted to the purpose were made to serve.

Selected women clad in their ordinary dress were fitted with snares about their vaginal openings. These traps were an in-

stant succ ess; no sooner was one set ere it was sprung by an eager ~~warsike~~ marsike. The women knowing nothing about traps, each required a male attendant to reset the snare, which had to be done a hundred times a day.

Great was the competition for these posts; positions as trappers were sought by all the nobles in the land. The strong, the valiant, and the brave all yearned to act as trappers, and the more of these that enrolled in the cause, the more fair and buxom damsels volunteered as traps.

It was a crusade that grew by leaps and bounds; was not the safety and happiness of the country at stake? Yes even its future and hon or. All wanted to trap or be trap [stet]. The movement swept the country; everywhere was a snare, everywhere a solicitous trapper, setting and resetting, keeping the snare in order, from daylight to dark.

As for the marsikes they could not move without getting impaled on needles or caught in a snare. So thoroly was the business done that soon few of the animals survived. There were occasional paltry outbreaks of marsikes in later years, but they were always fought by the same methods, and invariably were quickly subdued.

O noble councillors of Taro, you were wise enough to invoke universal human feelings in defense of your country and your people; Solomon himself could have done no better.

Epilogue

It is said, and there is no good reason for doubting the assertion, that the fear of mice that exists almost universally among women,

traces back to the plague of marsikes at Taro. It is easy to comprehend why the women there acquired an instinctive and supreme dread of any small animal running up their legs. How the fear became so widespread remains to be told.

After the first plague of Taro, stories were bruited about among travellers, concerning the peculiar e xcellencies of the women of that land. Their experiences in trapping had given them an easy freedom with men; the internal lacerations caused by the marsikes gave intercourse with their possessors a delicious titillating quality that greatly appealed to that longing of men after strange women; and the unusual power of the sphincter muscles attained in constant and spasmodic efforts to prevent the entrance of marsikes, so much better fitted for amorous disport the women of Taro, than fellows [overwritten: others] of their sex, that men came from all quarters and took home wives from Taro.

Thus the tradition of the plague became spread over all lands, and the fear of little, running, climbing animals became ingrained in the numberous female descendants of these Taroan women. Therefore, gentle reader, when you see a woman wrap her skirts tightly about her, or scurry to some high position, at sight of a mouse, think on the plague of Taro and excuse her. Nor fail reverently to remember the councillors and their wise device.

Sept.11-12, 1914.

W.L.McAtee, L.C. MS. D364 / envelope 6:

"Love-children" (1915) That summer had been a blissful one for me, for I had found a sweetheart. On the evening I speak of # here the reader may scan this page and omit the next, or if he will have it u nexpurgated proceed to the next # ~~[He--is-note,-taken-out]~~ we were completely absorbed in a most intimate love scene. ~~[next-page-looking~~]

Amby's the Baldwins' love-child. (1915)

Enfolding me in her arms, she held me close and whisperedx tenderly, "Poor boy, poor boy, but" proudly, "I have helped in making him into a man." The converse [i.e, womanxnot mothe r, not women] with its dread significance most impressed me, but I could not say it.

"Suffragettes" (1915) If a woman shows a man a good time, he will give her the best he's got. At least that's what I believe in doin'.

[see Esther II.13,14 on maiden tribute to Ahasuerus.]

Some of them [suffragettes] may be a little oldish, but they're only girls after all, and simply dyin' for a good time.

"Keeping language up to date" (1917) noting phrase "she sails"...

But now that screw propellors are on every boat that floats,
What is the proper thing to say in telling you the news?
Of where Miss Dora is these days, what's in her latest notes?
She's off to tour the continent, and this is the day she screws.

1917.

(..and this is our opening night!)

trade (of sexual actions)-prost.

1917 W. L. McATEE in L.C. MS. D364/6 "The Hole in the Wall." Betsy's home was a snug stall Where boys and men were wont to call To buy tid-bits for every meal To crack a joke, or a kiss to steal. Here stood her stove and table neat, Her bed's across, a scant three feet, All apparatus close arrayed Of Betsy's business and her trade.

ibid. "The difficulty of reaching Squaw-tit Peak" (1917) noting bends in ~~road~~ way up called The Knee and The C rotch, also exact woman's breast shape.

"All of them are doing it" (1918) Patriotic girls are warm To any man in uniform...Heard one say it, as I live, Patriotic tis to give To a soldier anything. This offer without a string. And the dear girl acts as said, Gives all, een her maidenhead.

envelope 6:

"An Arkansas Belle" (1914): She bent far over the book, pressing close against me; she had on her usual costume, a ~~xix~~ single gown, one layer I believe, from the warmth I felt. She suddenly threw her arms about my neck, and cried, "Oh mister, caint you see nothin', I want you, take me for yourn."

"Without price" (1914) I was soon enfemurated and ensheathed. Just as this occurred and between kisses she murmured a formula: "Your without money and without price."

"Pterrible Ptomaines" (1914)

'A travelling man, or drummer free
While away from home was bitten
By a dose of clapp or gonorrhoea;
By a lady he'd been smitten...

'His food may not have been the best,
And what he had that made him sicken
Was, I am sure not properly dressed
It was perhaps some tainted chicken.'

[McA's note:] chicken : young lady
tainted chicken : X ?

envelope 6: "The Merry butcher of Nootka" (1915) who

SHAK. ~~butcher~~ drops behind a woman, i.e. to look like a turd, "a curved sausage of the bigness of a finger." ... "The widow also glanced, could not believe her eyes -- she stared, still the damning evidence remained. It was preposterous, impossible, yet there was the too obvious Sir Reverence, and there stood the butcher with that droll inquiring gazeXX -- she wanted to shriek with laughter, and only by rushing for the door and clapping hand upon mouth, was she able to retreat with a shred of dignity."

eggs. The butcher siezed [stet] a stout sausage of some 8 or 10 inches in length (making a veritable pripaus erectus), he said: "Here is something nice," and caressing it suggestively, he continued, "wouldn't you like this?" His fingers slipped up and down the sausage with the touch of a master as he remarked "One of these and a couple of eggs for breakfast should make any young lady perfectly happy."...Exclaiming "Butcher, you're no good",[the 2 girls] fled from the shop.

W.L.McAtee L.C. MS. D.364 (envelope 4) "Youth vs. medicine" (1915) p.1

"Ah yes," my children," began the doctor, without a word from his visitors, "too much to-ing and fro-ing. Am I not right?"

You amaze me. You have been married about a year, I believe. So in that period you have played at double back more than 600 times. A fine record, my young gallant.

Joke ending: they are there not for advice on laying off, but to assure same number next year, & leave in huff.

"Who kisses will do more" (1914) ends with tag-poem:

So trod they lover's lane
With hurried footsteps burning
So butter came in Cythera's urn
As it will with proper churning.

straight incest story "Love transformed" (1915) in which a widowed mother, ~~widowed~~ in jealousy at losing the son who has been her innocent bedfellow until late in his adolescence, to his new sweetheart blinds him with a white-hot iron pan "held,,close over his face." The sweetheart withdraws her pledge of marriage, and the mother, pretending to be the sweetheart, becomes her son's mistress.

joke: "The Bedwarm er" (1912) of visitor who is cold, husband suggests wife to enter his bed to warm him . "Thought he, 'twill do no harm, Wife said today her period was on." "The best bedwarmer I know of is my own wife, and as she said today she is sewed up for the present I'll lend her to you." Bed continues shaking as though with his coldness. Husband shouts over:'"Wife, you're not warming him very quick." Wife,however,deeply interested in something else, could hardly reply. "It's getting better now,"said she"-- oh-so-much--better, e-v-e-r-y-thing soon - will be - all - all ri - ri-ri." At this diminuendo of articulation silenced by ecstacy [stet](as our host thought by sleepiness) he turned over satisfied.'

(envelope 5) "Efficacy of Prayer": Bridget showed me the way of this,First time I slept with that neat miss. (1918)
She was delightful, nothing less, How sped the hours you need not guess.

"Why we call them chickens" (1918) Some say because with them you n eed A lot of cash or chicken feed, And others think the name's a sign For their display of feathers fine. ... Decollete [stet] ~~they~~ I may add as well They look like chicks a-bursting shell.

"Be she short" (1918) I'd not give an empty cartridge For to sleep with her o' night. (sleep struck through by "lie")

For so mightily ticklish are my knees That with her toes about them twiddling I'm sure that they away would tease Half the fun of diddling.

[nerve: penis]
1913 "Nervi erigentes,"
Does your heart lose time in acting? No, it's prompt, it's ruled by nerve, Nerve that moves us, schools us, rules us, giving every action verve.

[rima pudendi: note "Shy Rima!" in W.H.Hudson's Green Mansions?!]

RIMATE

Now man you'll admit,
Agreeing with me
Must of course be classed as a primate.
His mate lacks that bit,
Beginning with P
Hence is neatly described as rimate.

(McA's note: Latin rima : slit, hence rimate : with a slit.) 1912.

[telephonia, as of 1913: his poem"Carte blanche"]

CARTE BLANCHE

Dolly stood nude at the phone one day
From the bath she'd been hurriedly called.
When masculine voice she heard so near
The girlie was almost appalled.

"I want to come over and see you soon,"
Said he to the girl clad so light [!]
Dolly, wanting to please, in truth liking him
Said, "Well, I have nothing on tonight."

Confusion and consternation
The strict truth of what she had said
Embarrassed our maiden so greatly
She was suffused with rosy red.

The man at the phone kept on talking
Indeed she could scarcely reply,
"I'm coming right over and kiss you,"
Said he with a tremendous sigh.

Dolly was quite unprepared for this
And mended not matters, her skin still afire
When she said in a voice low and broken
"Yes dear, anything that you desire."

1913.

REAL PROPERTY (1912)
Lawyers make a distinction fine
Between personal property and real
Th at which i easily removable is
To the class one they usually deal,
That which is built into the house
Or otherwise firmly attached
In contradistinction is real property...

A lawyer friend this question asked
As he met me at the Musee,
"When is a woman real property?" I passed.
"Wh en she's screwed on the floor," quoth he. (1912)

[A wife is an attachment you screw on the bed to get the housework done.]

PLANE GEOMETRY

"Only those who have done conic sections,"
Said Professor Montal to his class, (Montal)
"May go on with private erections
Of interest both to lad and to lass.

"This course will be a test of perfection
In the lessons of quite recent days
And he will make quickest connection
Who can bisect both angle and base. [bisecting angels: boner]

"To begin with our first proposition
Concerning the case in particular
Where a thing of horizontal position
For completion i needs a line perpendicular.

"No reply, you don't know the rule,
It is this," quote old Professor Montal,
"You must have a vertical tool
To take refreshment horizontal."

1912.

NOT EVEN A SHORT SHIRT

A mother reproached her handsome son
For attentions shown to a devotee fair of the amorous goddess Venus.
To his anxious mam, replied the son,
With sincerity most convincing,
"She, why there's nothing at all between us."

His mère appeased, naught was to do
But satisfy his conscience. She So said he: "As to that flirt,
What I said is certainly true,
Between us two oft nothing is,"
Said he, "not even a shirt."

1912.

(McA's note, 1944: Popular tale put into verse).

"My lady proud" (1913)

When he does come you'll trail your skirt,
~~And~~ You'll do the things you now think dirt,
For him you'll forsake modesty
And farewell all this vanity.

For him you'll act the very whore
And do things ne'er dreemed of before
In bed, or bath, in x hall, on stair
You'll be complaisant everywhere.

Amid the night or in the day
At anytime you'll stop to play.
Under the trees, on bushy bank,
You'll sport, or where the grass is rank.

You'll ape a harlot changing dresses
Ten times a day you'll bind your tresses
You will be tousled well, and tumbled
And not a word will you have grumbled.

So why just now are you so frigid
And than a statue far more rigid?
My lady proud, you do but bore
I know you'd love being someone's whore. 1913.

"The Waste of Beauty" (1913):

The charming girls are often far too good
In youth or een in radiant womanhood
Some pursue this course until away they're laid
Without a friend -- by name, a poor old maid.

The veriest frumps are not so apt to vex
As these self-centered creatures without sex.
Equipped with all the charms of love
But XX loving, they feel very far above...

When healthy youth is here and limbs as yet are supple
'Tis best my girlie dear with some nice man to couple
Ror prudery, I warn, aching regret's the cost
'Tis better far, my dear, I say, to have loved, een if you lost. 1913.

"6n borrowing a maidservant" (1913)

She glanced around, but soon enquired, "What is it that needs doing?" "As I said," spoke John, "it's woman's work, a little bit of screwing. Just lie right down across the bed, we've little time for wooing."

They were not long in getting busy And the pace they rode would make you dizzy. Now he was atop, again was she 'Twas merry a romp as one could see. (1913)

W.L.McATEE MS. L.C. D364/7

(masturb.) 1944 title "Personal Resources"

1913
Most everywhere you go now days It is against the law To cohabit without marriage,Worse rules you never saw...In the light of these conditions Seems that the best of courses Is for a man to do the best he can With his personal resources.

yard
1912
"If her eyes of lustrous brightness," If a thigh of creamy smoothness Softly stole ~~xx xxx~~ oer those of you,Stiffening yard and firing blood, Would not that also appeal to you?

coitu : as English noun!

1912
"If her eyes of lustrous brightness," If in coitu's joyous conflict She chafed, squeezed and fairly milked you Sharing ecstasies [stet] of love's combat You'd enjoy it just immensely wouldn't you?

nether curls
1912
As lordly bull looks oer the waving plain For likely dam to ornament his reign,So I survey the leafy mall [Washington, D.C.] for girls, And ~~proudly~~ ponder joy of piercing nether curls.

chemilon
1913
"The Real Girl," Inventions not mentioned, contraptions they are We next remove in our search for the core Except for gauze hose and sheer chemilon Our pursuit so joyous is hindered no more.

paint &c.
1913
"The Real Girl," O why do they dress, paint, powder, and primp, When we like them de puris [McA's note, 1944: i.e. in a state of nature] far more than enfurled. [i.e. in puris nat.bus]

amourist 1913
"Amor Aquaticus," The thrill of palm gliding over velvety skin is one no amourist can resist.

bump : v.i. of coital motions
1913
"Amor Aquaticus," It was the first occasion on which she had needed words to express such feelings.."I want, oh I want to hug you honey, oh hard, hard, I want to hug you, and just bump, and bump, and bump.

"Dress reform" (1913)

A favorite..maneuver often tried
Was to take small sister alongside
Whose exposed limbs were to suggest
The style of the larger when undressed.

The shadow skirt on some we wee
Or the silhouette, or slit to ~~knew~~ kneee
But better the transparency
This summer given currency.

See walking hither a pretty lass
Legs full in view, as tho thru glass
The sensation is, I'll admit it, -- queer
But very pleasant, never fear.

Their waists have long been very gay
Called peek-a-boo, holes everyway.
Firm breasts are plain, nigh as if bare
You can see the nipples if you care.

(see in WLGeorge, Bed of Roses, 190-)

poken (past part. of poke!)

1913 W.L.McAtee MS. L.C. D364/7
"O" ("Goodness"). An egg is little good until
it has been broken, A maidenhead the same
~~x~~ till once at least well poken

(ibid) A woman is very little good unless a little bad.

tube skirt
1913 W.L.McAtee MS. L.C. D364/7 "Cette jambe,"
What leg is this seen every day, If not of
lover, mistress, wife?..Tis only that of a girl
I say Who boards the car with me each day. You
could not even call her a flirt. My views are
(overwritten: joy's) due solely to the chic
tube skirt.

(nb..)

(McA's note, 1944: Another old style)

panties
1913 W.L.McATEE MS. L.C. D364/7 "Fort Stanton,"
Mementos all around Make one impression clear,
we're on the battle ground. A garter here, a
belt, a bit of stocking there, A pair of cor-
sets now and then, een panties girlies wear.

trixie
1913
"The Tick," In a matter-of-fact way (there's no
stopping these young trixies when their mind is
made up to it), she began to unfasten her waist.

W.L.McATEE MS. L.C. D364/7

1913
"The Tick," When the crisis of our first bout arrived and I felt that convulsive, pulsating gripping, and that powerful suction that seemed it would draw the very marrow from my bones, I knew I had drawn a prize in love's lottery.

[cf. melt de fat from your bones:Calypso]

1913
"The Tick," This lively attack so warmed her that she soon had me ~~in~~ mounted and in full career again. At the end of this charge, I went over to the spring and drank deeply, I always like to do so after an emission. There's a certain sense of emptiness that needs attention and the water has a filling, replacing effect.

1913
"The Tick," When we were satisfied and,after much pleasant dallying, had separated, I excused myself and ret ired to relieve some pressing wants.

1913
"The Tick," Her parts genital were suffused [illegible] and expanded like a full blown ruddy peony.

D364/9

1919
"Entomological Labels," Aedes damnifica...H.G.Dyar, Biting a mule. Necrophorus pustulatus...Burying a dead snake. Nacerdes melanura...In privy. Trox scaber...Under a dead horse. Deromyia discolor...Feeding on dung beetles. Phaneus carnifex...F. Knab, Coprophagous. Chauliognathus pennsylvanicus...E.A.Schwarz and H.S.Barber, In copula.

(1919)

X version of the 1952 joke about what do you do with your old panties? (polish car etc.) here man with fake glasses asking girls to polish them with top of stockings -- have myself used slips.

W.L.McATEE MS. L.C. D364/9

1919 long write-up of joke about guy and woman on desert island, he builds house for her etc. She: "...But sometimes as you go about the island don't you wish for something else? You have done so/much very for me, isn't there some thing I can do for you?" He bursts out: "Oh if ye only had some pickled pig's feet." (this is the now's your chance joke). so he ran down and ate the beans.
"Stout Captain Olaf". 1919.

"A little free verse
used for about the only purpose it is good for" :

Harrietta is a dear good girl
Just as fine as they come you can bet
   But her name
   O ye gods
   It is Sowerbutt.

Desperate when forced to pronounce it
And rhyme it with our butt or yore butt,
   (Either way
   Sounds like hell)
Oh damn that damned Sowerbutt.
1919.

1920
"Near adventures with the fair sex," Oh beans! if the time, the place and the lady had been right, just right, it would have been wonderful -- but as it is, it ain't.

on French 7 - 13 - & - 3 / 7 - 2 - 9
compare Orpheus C. Kerr Papers, ("See-ker")
III.ser. 1865, p.126
(also Gernsback's Ralph 124C41+)
McAtee has a rubbish poem "A Touching or Digital Lament" (title really reversed)
w. chorus:0 (naught) 4 1 2 0 (cipher;sigh for); 0 4 1 2 8 (wait) 4. (1920).

obscoe
W.L. McAtee MS. L.C. D364/9 env.

"Surprise denouement:" (1922)
It was night, the air was warm, the man and the girl were very close together. Suddenly he made a more determined effort than any before. Sighing, with an air of resignation, she uncrossed her knees to permit him to (over) get out of his inside seat in a street car.
[var: leave his next-the-window seat in a street car.]

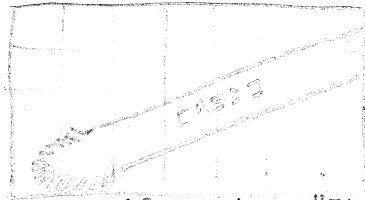
nb. in his "Near adventures with the fair sex" (1920) begins: as to fixing girl's garter: "The denouement, savage reader, you expect, did not denou; she was only four years old."

W.L.McATEE MS.(L.C. D364/in 9 envelopes; Accession 7589) 190 -1944

(note says see: D303 and D320)

envelope 9: 3306 - 14th St., NW

"~~Measuring~~ (Struck over: Taking) An Angle" (1921)

involves a drawing of a meteorite's path thus:

young wife saying: "It looks better upside down."

"Shrubbery in the Parks" (1922):

The Soldier's Home grounds was stripped of its shrubs -- clean shaved. It is alleged that this place was not only frequented by pairs drawn from the general public, but that the old soldiers engaged there in undignified practices. Lacking the readiness of their distant youth, they had, at times, to require considerable manipulation at the hands of their courtesans, which same grew longsome and nois ome in the view of the beholders. When lonely or broke, some of the old fellows are said to have resorted to that solitary indulgence sometimes practiced in youth. All this due to shrubbery by gad! [McA's 1944 note: Gen. Winfield Scott then Superintendent told me of this.]

It is even said that the low, stiff, thorny barberry growth about the Pike Monument--a meagre triangle bounded by busy streets, frequently sheltered pairs more indiscreet in their choice of a lair [!], and more urgent in going up against the pricks, than one can easily conceive.

This very point leads to a suggestion that has been made to remedy the great evil, and that is to have shrubs and thickets, but have them impenetrable. Use such things as thickly set cock-spur thorn, [1944: Cherokee rose], honey locust, and Hercules Club, interlaced with cat-brier, bull-grip, and devil's claw, the ground to be nicely carpeted with [1944: cactus,] cockspur grass, and sand-burs. This proposal has been discarded, however, partly because [of] the suggestive names of some of the plants, but chiefly ~~because~~ on account of the conviction that the Washington public through long training has become too hardy to be deterred by the trifles mentioned.

Such persistence deserves a better reward and [1922. in the writer's opinion, since the District authorities will not permit shrubbery in the parks, it is their manifest duty to provide a community copulation center... Let our copulation center be so run that no unattached male need ever call in vain.

7589/9
W.L.McAtee MS. L.C. D364/9: (Waldo Lee McAtee)

~~"Barry's Adventure" 1922~~ "The Catholic Parade" (1922):

And nuns, say! after the manner of the old sock who told the boastful traveller who confessed ignorance of delirium tremens, "yo' aint been nowhere and yo' aint seen nuthin!" if you did not see the delegation of Baltimore nuns that decorated our fair city Sunday, 'Yo aint been in no nunneries and yo aint seen no nuns!' [clearly tending toward definition of nun: because she ain't ever had none and ain't ever gonna get none]

There were among them [nuns] a number who could not make their eyes behave and for the first time in my life I began to see some real advantages in being a Catholic.

"A Visit to the Freer Art Museum" (1924):
It seems the artist was not satisfied with the position of Venus and pushed her, while still wet, from side to side, parts of her sticking in the various positions tried, so that as finished she is about as broad as two colored washerwomen and represents nothing so realistically as a pink hippopotamus doing a "shimmy."

D364/8:

~~Zkyxkaax~~ "Combinations" (1925)
Though twas not without disdaining she decided on remaining
And we soon were sleeping soundly, matching mighty snore for snore.
Sleep removing my dejection I awoke with an erection
Taller than the very tallest I was used to have of yore
All of that and then some more.

"Sub-pectoral mammae" (1925)
They formed a Sub-Committee of Sub-debs with Sub-pectoral Mammae...Interesting topics thus ~~x~~ far deliberated by the Committee are: Is the/re advantage with the Sub-p.M. in allowing a sort of Navel cut corsage, or do the men like to see them peeping plumply over [var: have military tastes and prefer] higher breastworks?; In shimmying do the mammae give more thrills when applied to the lower or ticklish ribs or when flopping over the heart?...Is is worth while..to point out the possibility of producing by proper crossing a four-nippled strain of sub-debs? Continued improvements in petting processes should bring this strain into great demand; considering the many things to be gained [var.: safety], would it not be better for each subdeb with Sub-p.-m. to find a congenial Subdeb pectorally developed, cotton to her, and eschew men entirely?

[McA's note, 1944: Has some connection with A. K. Fisher, a connoiseur (sic) of mammae.]

McAtee, W.L.   MS. L.C. D364/8   (L.C. 7589)

MY ROOM-MATE

The writer believes he may properly lay claim to being a real he-man with all the attributes thereof. The reader therefore is assured that anything in this little sketch savoring of "sob stuff" [overwritten: mushiness] is not really that at all. To get back to our subject I'll tell the world that my room-mate at college was a ture friend if there w ever was one. Roomy helped me in my studies and as we worked side by side, our heads close together, a feeling of affection would sometimes overpower me and at these occasions Roomy went to considerable trouble to help me get on. Roomy stood up for me whenever I needed it [!] and I backed Roomy up at every (crossed out: possible] opportunity. Roomy stuck to me like a poultice, and was the best bed warmer I ever was up against. Nothing ever came between us, not even a short. Gee! she was a peach.

1925.

"A New Traffic Danger" In each case the diagnosis has been ballistic shock but the young fellows call it Forditis so as to have a xxx name that will conceal the facts from their flapper friends...The whole troubles traces back, it seems, to the failure of the presently stylish balloon trousers to give support to the parts involved. Having nothing to hold them, when the auto stopped so suddenly, they flew off more or less the length of the legs of the roomy trousers, and are now being slowly brought back to the normal position by hospital treatment... an undue stretching of tissues never intended to be stretched, and a considerable degree of shock, which for want of a better name the doctors have called ballistic.

1925.

[1952 L.C. librarian, on new petting area: The Erogexnous Zone]

Gilda Gray in Aloma of the South Seas (c.1926) does a hula-hula

"The Near Tragedy" (1927): There was a sound of rushing water, a loud report like a thunderclap, then the thud as of a body plunging into the depths. Then sighs, soft, heart-breaking feminine sighs...the tragedy I had visioned was but a reflex of the doings of a lady in the other compartment of the w.c. (or OO as they call them here). -- Budapest, 1927.

"The Serpent in the Garden of Eden" (1927): She loosens her hair, a sign since time immemorial of about the same import in love's campaign as clearing the decks of a fighting ship for action.

In some way her bodice has become loosened so that every movement k increases the exposure of fair orbs that previously were to Edward's eyes unseen. (1927(.

/ Angelica again establishes in Edward the dominance of sex over mind.

By warming him throughout with her fair body..

W.L.McAtee MS. L.C. D364/8: (envelope 8)

"What's the world coming to?" (1928): Then as what we call civilization progressed, possession of women ran through the anticlimacteric [?] series of haremry, polygamy, and concubinage, down to strict monogamy. ....

In those days most of the rooming houses were adorned by college widows, nominated by themselves. (1928)
cf. widder-woman (town whore)

It could gain for itself and posterity a greater freedom, and put to good use its pent up energies, by swatting manfully all of those who would sissify, prudify, and santity "the land of the free..." (1928) ....

title: The Tale of Paul Lataste (1923) - nothing on cunnil.
1923 1923.

extension of joke about marrying identical twins (1933)
Which of you got married? -- Cora. -- And you are --? -- Dora. How do you mangge, about the husband, I mean? -- Oh, I just have to look out for myself.(-- When the young husband was asked, "How do you tell them apart?" his dê ightfully frank reply was, "I don't try.")

"One 'outrage'" (1937): Cupping her breast...I manipulated it and fingered the nipple until her kisses showed she was suffused with erotic excitement. I was in no better case and was glad to see a bluejay in the trees to concentrate upon for a few moments while the danger of a premature orgasm on my part safely passed. [!!!]

JOKE

follows with joke on guy who takes waitress out, after "she permitted one of her breasts to repose momentarily on his shoulder." Holds off orgasm "Feeling the need of moderating the progress of his own excitement he temporized a bit, viewing the glooming landscape." After she asks him why he tells her of taking his grandpa squirrel hunting when little, he to point out the squirrels and grandpa to shoot. Grandpa rests rifle against tree and is some time in taking aim. Finally doesn't shoot. At end of day does shoot one. Boy asks, "Grandpa, why did you aim at all those squirrels and never shoot?" "Well you see sonny," he replied, "it's this a way. I love squirrel huntin' better than anything in the world, but I had only one catridge."

[McA's note, 1944: This tale told me by Col. H.P.Sheldon]

My exploring hand went home and there was no recoil.[!] A stout mid-finger, drawn through creamy spendings, trailed caressingly over a fully erected clitoris and with an almost shuddering "o-o-o-h" her hips fairly leaped with the shock. Withdrawing I palmed the whole organ comfortingly for a resting period, then returned to the titillation. The girls was in ecstacy [stet] and finally when the over-wrought clitoris could bear no more and the pad of a finger tip pressed into its very meatus [!!!!!], her orgasm came. [and this guy is a biologist!]

McAtee MS. D364/8:

A fair good woman hater,
And a hearty sex berater,
Before I knew of Moira;
A bachelor of proof. "Moira" (1939) (error for 1934?)

"The Pleasures of Impotence" [!] (1937)"They ['the girls'] tell me you know so much about women, about loving, that you never get a girl in trouble." "Why, my dear! of course not; in the first place, I would not for anything in the world, and in the second, I could not for I was long ago sterilized by the art of the surgeon, a thing that now seems to have been un-necessary as Anno Domini have done their stuff. My brand of love is perfectly harmless."

Having shared her first transports, I was through for a week. So I caressed and sucked her breasts until her mons veneris (crossed out, 1944, and replaced by: ~~kx~~ hips) bobbled about like a cork on a turbulent stream; I stroked her clitoris until her legs stiffened and her toes curled in delight, and she crooned a little song without words, that died away in an ululation of ecstacy.
Such are the pleasures of impotence...

(Note: Inspired by a dream.) 1937

LIM!

X

He loved to make his zipper zip
And see his fly-front gaily rip.
But once his member tangled
Got hideously mangled
And now that lad's no longer quite so flip. (July 1937).

[note context of this verse bit]

Women: July 1939, submitted to Esquire 1939 with note: "The second stanza may be too strong meat for your readers but we have no less authority than Sappho for its truth." in draft: "We are complete, Needing no man; ~~Like Sappho~~ (struck out) We embrace one another With joy men cannot know."

last date of material is 1940 (Women is 1 from end)

" Preaching is one thing, Practice another" (c.1915)
On the birds and flowers of the Bible He could quote both chapter and verse. Yet a little act called "Fishing for ~~gun~~ fun," With his clerk he loved to rehearse.
"Father, I've come to confess I did thus and so with my sweet-heart Jess." "But how my child can I understand Unless you show me with your hand?"He was ~~w~~ full of Scriptural learning But e'en more of the fleshly yearning.

imbecile song, says based on a popular song, on his girl Hortense. "Every time I kiss Hortense, I need a box of peppermints." (c.1915?)

Women

We are the source,
Creating all mankind;
From our loins have sprung
Poet and captain, peasant and king,
All equal in our ken.

We are complete,
Needing no man;
We embrace one another
With joy men cannot know.

Yet we are tolerant;
Comes a man from the tribe,
'Tis well,
Or from out the tribe,
'Tis also well;
We receive them all
The race goes on.

Strong are we but also weak,
Yielding to bright jewels and fair words,
Or even out of pity,
A little for ourselves, perhaps,
What times a man seems dear.

Enough of that!
The weaker sex, hah!
Man is the weakling.
We bear him, rear, and keep him,
And at last lay him in his grave
But we go on.

The burdens we have borne!
The homes that we have made for our assumed "lords"!
Hunters, fishers, shepherds, farmers,
Part-time workers all;
They rest but we work on
And do the greater part of all
That e'er on earth is done.

We are patient,
Biding our time;
Men ever fret their lives away
And all they have is ours.
Their wealth and youth,
Their love and strength,
We get it all.

Last of the race on earth
Will be a woman,
Aged, distraught, and weeping for her kind,
Yet will she keep her pride
And say,
"As I was the beginning
So am I the end
The round is done."
But womanlike,
Will add, "Ah me."

c.1940.
McAtee ~~c.1944~~. 1939

W.L.McAtee, L.C. MS. D364/7

LIM.

X How sad for a girl called Charlotte
That her name is so close to harlot.
She may have the rep
And even the pep
Tho she never has crotched a varlet.

1913.

Give me, rather, than the mental giant
Who cares not for a woman
The bully of virtue e'er defiant
With ballocks like a Roman. [cf. in Arkansas County]

Avaunt ye feeble weak-kneed fumbler
To life you have no right.
Give me the expert lady tumbler
Wh o serves full ten most any night.

1913.

aet.61

(McA's note, 1944: Read to N. H. Kent photographer of the Biological Survey. He could not conceive of a 10-a-night man.)

GRASS LUNCH

As in boxing, so in that sport called "grass lunch,"
One thing that is needed is a man with a "punch"
Another, a maid, receptive in mood
For that best of all luncheons, a lunch without f ood.

1912.

[mf this is halfway between green-gown, and box-lunch.
Cf. lore that Winchell, the day after Whoosis was found going down on Paulette G oddard at Ciro's (?) cracked:
"I hear the box-lunches are very good at Ciro's."]

TRANSFORMATION OF ENERGY (1913): It might be used in making babies/ But one wife's all allowed today/ In rubbing mistress 'tween the labies/But you know what the world would say.

Semen keeps on coming, coming,/Pressing, pressing for relief./ When with vital force you're h umming/It's hell to be good in my belief...

Grundies fierce are ever near And you must do as they say you should.
By working like a very Turk, I get the upperhand of balls.
Eventually work becomes a bore..When what I want most is a whore.

W.L.McAtee MS. ~~[illegible]~~ D364/ envolope 8:

"The Undoing of words" (1940) sent to Am.Speech and rejected

An especially regrettable phase of word mishandling apparently is due to prudery. First the word "assault," then "attack," with plain meanings universally understood for hundreds of years have been substituted for the entirely different term "rape" to such an extent that one hardly dare risk using them, because the newspaper sense instead of the traditional meaning is almost certain to flash into the mind of the reader. Other examples are thr phrases "to be intimate with," "to have relations with," which are newspaperese for fornication and equivalents. This debasing of words having a long history of pleasant associations in literature is an outrage on the language.

The use of plain words in the proper meanings probably would hurt neither the press nor the public, but if prudery must prevail, it would seem preferable that accounts of supposedly offensive translations be omitted rather than to force upon words, meanings which terminate their long careers of respectable usefulness.

cf. article very much like this
by Falk Johnson, in ca.Jan.1951
Am.Mercury.

Fetiches (1925)
W. L. McAtee LC. MS. D 364

These are my toasts, but well you know,
It is not wine they cause to flow,
But the sap of man, that gushes out,
As to each I dedicate a bout.

beg. Here's to the trim-limbed little Venus,
Who leaves no wasted space between us...

[very "semi"]

McAtee (1936)

"A Perfect Gentleman" — in "Slightly Pungent" (1938)

He was a he-man of a very rugged type and in the company of men, at least, profane, telling or relishing a risque story as well as anyone, and to all indications a good follower of Martin Luther's advice as to loving wine, woman, and song.

A shop girl or a social leader, a gold-digger or a grandma, a prissie or a pushover, each has her own idea as to what constitutes a perfect gentleman. Again it is quite likely that a preacher or a professor, a gangster or a gigolo, a pugilist or a pansy, would each have for the remark a highly individual implication.

ease v.t.

1920 Edna St. V. MILLAY, "The Betrothal" in T. R. Smith, Poetica Erotica (1921) 714, I might as well be easing you as lie alone in bed, And waste the night in wanting a cruel dark head.

McAtee MSS

D. 364

C. 1608 | envelopes 10 & 11.

non erotic?

II - 29 -